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...-second year - No. 1098 - By air

...ndropov missiles plan ...gets cautious welcome

...he Soviet leader, Mr Andropov, has ...pulled off a political masterpiece by ...ing to scrap some Soviet missiles in ...European part of the Soviet Union.

...he essentially new factor is to scrap ...ead of merely redeploy. Mr Andro... wants the offer to be part of an ove... agreement on limiting medium... missiles in Europe.

... America refrains from deploying ...iles in Europe later this year, the ...et Union would dismantle suffi... of its missiles to bring the number ... balance with the number of missi... deployed by France and Britain.

...is proposal has been welcomed in ...rly all Western capitals, although ...h reservations.

But the overriding impression is that ... is the long-awaited move that could ...ally get the Geneva talks going again.

The Soviet leader's move ought not to ... come as a surprise. For weeks ...e had been signs of an improvement ...S-Soviet ties.

... Reagan and Mr Andropov might be said to be engaged in an attempt along tried and trusted lines, in other words on the quiet, to break down the stiffness between the superpowers.

These diplomatic relaxation exercises include both agreement on the final document at the CSCE review conference in Madrid and the talks that have gone almost unnoticed since March between US Secretary of State Shultz and the Soviet ambassador to the United States, Mr Dobrynin.

The increasing number of US Senators visiting Moscow fits into the picture. So does the comprehensive agreement on fresh grain shipments.

President Reagan is sounding a little less aggressive in his public statements about the Soviet Union.

So far there has been no more than an improvement in climate. With both sides clearly keen to minimise the risks run in Afghanistan and Central America, to name but two hot spots, the improvement in climate was certain to have a political effect sooner or later.

Mr Andropov's undertaking to scrap at least some Soviet missiles, instead of merely relocating them, is something new in substance.

The Russians are evidently now prepared to give way. They realise that the West can no longer be expected to go back on missile modernisation in Europe unless the Kremlin offers concessions.

The Soviet leader's offer is an initial, "extremely welcome step," as Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher puts it.

But it is unlikely to be the last word on the subject, as Social Democrat Horst Ehmke seems to think.

The Russians have naturally given thought to their choice of this juncture

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE



Back to work: Chancellor Kohl (right) and Foreign Minister Genscher before the first Bonn Cabinet meeting after the Chancellor's holidays. (Photo: AP)

Kohl reveals hopeful signs for a Geneva talks agreement

Chancellor Helmut Kohl says he will do all he can to help bring about a compromise by the end of the year at the Geneva missile talks.

He had received letters from both President Reagan and the Soviet leader, Mr Andropov. Both were encouraging.

Dr Kohl told the Press in Bonn that Mr Reagan had written that the United States was prepared to do what was necessary to achieve results.

The US government had evidently not yet reached a final decision on the subject but Mr Nitze, the chief US delegate, would be briefing the Chancellor en route to Geneva for the crucial round of talks.

Mr Andropov, the Chancellor said, had written that he saw a prospect of agreement being reached by the end of the year.

Dr Kohl was either unable or unwilling to say how Moscow envisaged a breakthrough.

The signs were that the Soviet leader's letter to the Chancellor merely referred to the possibility of agreement.

Dr Kohl strongly supported as far-reaching a compromise as possible at Geneva and flexible negotiations.

In this he stood out in sharp contrast to Herr Dregger, the CDU/CSU leader in the Bonn Bundestag, who warned against going too far in making concessions to the Russians.

The Chancellor noted that his approach had been unanimously approved by the CDU presidium at a meeting attended by Dr Dregger.

Yet the Bonn government felt Dr Dregger's comments had been a nuisance and ill-informed, and this view was shared fellow-Christian Democrats in the government.

Nothing was more important than an agreement in Geneva on medium-range missiles that, although it might not amount to the zero option, came as close to it as possible.

Even if missile modernisation by the West were to be reduced by the terms of an agreement, he said, both Cruise and Pershing 2 missiles would still be stationed in Germany.

Yet according to the ratio of one missile to the other by the terms of the dual-track Nato decision this is only feasible down to a certain level of missile reduction.

If agreement were reached on a relatively low number of missiles to be held by the two sides the Pershing 2 would "automatically" fall by the wayside in the West.

Dr Kohl would hear nothing of re-arranging the timetable.

Thomas Meyer

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 27 August 1983)

Killer satellite ban offer under scrutiny

...iscussion continues in the West on ...he Soviet proposal for a ban on ...evelopment, testing and stationing ...apon systems in outer space.

...nn has now revealed that in June ...the Soviet Union, as part of an ex... series of missile tests, experi...ed with a killer satellite.

...cording to the *Frankfurter Allge... Zeitung* the killer satellite unsuc...ully tried to knock out another sa... over the Munich area.

...ither the Foreign Office nor the ...nce Ministry are prepared to make ...al comments on the issue, but it is ...rmed in Bonn that tests took place.

...re was no legal relevance to the ...hat the killer satellite test was held ...ter space above German territory. ...at altitude sovereign rights no lon... applied.

...e Soviet bid to ban space weapons ...o far been rejected by the West mainly because the USSR has established an advantage in this sector of arms technology.

Any agreement would thus be to the West's disadvantage. Bonn has underpinned this argument by referring to last year's missile and satellite trials.

It is not the first time they have been mentioned. In June last year US Secretary of State Haig released details of the Soviet missile tests.

In Washington they were regarded at the time as trials of nuclear first-strike capacity by the Soviet Union.

They tested both eliminating the US communication and early warning satellites and knocking out land- and sea-based strategic missiles and a medium-range SS-20 missile system aimed at Europe.

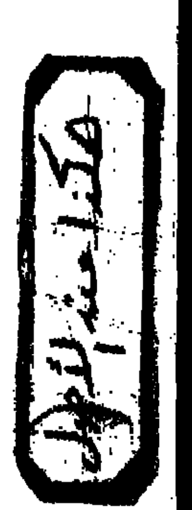
The UN General Assembly will shortly deal with the Soviet proposal to ban military use of outer space.

The draft provides for no military objects other than reconnaissance satellites to verify arms control agreements to be stationed in space.

There must be no satellites capable of destroying space, air or land targets. Existing military satellite systems are to be scrapped and new ones neither developed nor tested.

Manned spacecraft are also, by the terms of the draft agreement, to be restricted to exclusively civilian uses.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 27 August 1983)



Kohl the first 'post-war generation' Chancellor to visit Israel

Thirty-eight years after the Second World War and the end of Nazi rule the government of Israel is hosting its first sitting Christian Democratic Chancellor from Bonn.

Helmut Kohl is only the second Bonn Chancellor to pay Israel an official visit. Willy Brandt was the first; he visited Jerusalem 10 years ago.

Dr Kohl is the first Bonn Chancellor to belong to the *post-war generation*. In 1945 he was 15.

Konrad Adenauer and Ludwig Erhard were both welcomed as friends but were no longer in office when they visited Israel.

During their terms in office reparations agreements were reached, financial and economic aid to Israel agreed and, in 1965 and in the face of protest from the Arab world, full diplomatic ties established between the two states.

Chancellor Kohl has repeatedly said he considers himself to be "Konrad Adenauer's grandson," a point Israeli diplomats in Bonn note attentively.

"We will receive Chancellor Kohl with honour and dignity," Israel's ambassador, Yitzhak Ben-ari, said.

Was it just the usual diplomatic flourish?

In this case probably not. There is a tale in connection with the Chancellor's visit that is a departure from the routine.

Shortly after assuming power a year ago Dr Kohl said he intended to take up *the longstanding invitation to the* Bonn Chancellor to visit Israel.

It was a visit is predecessor, Helmut Schmidt, had repeatedly postponed on account of personal disagreements with the Israeli Premier, Menachem Begin.

Despite unrest in the Arab camp, where a possible change in the Bonn government's Middle East policy had prematurely been supposed, Dr Kohl stood by his word even after winning the March general election.

Arab misgivings have gradually been dispelled and the Chancellor will be visiting several Arab countries later this year to demonstrate the balanced nature of Bonn's policy in the Middle East.

Yet Israel views as a special gesture the fact that Dr Kohl has chosen to visit it after his initial visits to Paris, Washington, London, Rome and Moscow.

"The most important feature of the visit is that it is taking place," as one Israeli diplomat put it.

German-Israeli relations ran into heavy weather during Helmut Schmidt's Chancellorship, especially in the autumn of 1979.

Foreign Minister Genscher had toured a number of Arab countries. In June 1979 Common Market ForeignMinisters and the European Community issued a declaration on the Middle East.

The SPD leader, Willy Brandt, met Yasser Arafat of the PLO in Vienna. Mistrust grew in Jerusalem, where it was recalled that Bonn was dependent on imported oil.

Israeli officials began to wonder whether the Federal Republic of Germany might be on the point of a change of policy on the Middle East.

Israel expected the moral obligations of Germans towards Jews to continue to be regarded as a special feature of relations between the two countries.

In Bonn the trend was clearly stated by Herr Schmidt in an interview with the *Jerusalem Post* when he said that relations with Israel ought not to be based on an uneasy conscience.

Bonn was promptly accused of wanting to move into the vacuum that had arisen as a result of the influence the United States had lost in the Arab world after the Camp David agreement.

Foreign Minister Dayan referred on a visit to Bonn to a change for the worse in mutual relations and accused the Bonn government of being on its own in using the formula of a right of self-determination for the Palestinians.

This formula had indeed been in use since 1974 in German statements on a solution to the Middle East conflict.

But Bonn's partners in Europe, the other members of the European Community, now jointly endorse the demand, first made by Bonn, for this Palestinian right to be heeded.

Together with Israel's right to exist and renunciation of force by all parties to the conflict, it makes up the three principles of a peace settlement in the Middle East as called for in the June 1980 Venice Declaration by EEC leaders.

Even now another coalition is in power in Bonn the German government continues to back the common European policy on the Middle East.

It is that by means of a peaceful process of negotiation the rights of the *Palestinian people* must be heeded just as the right of all states in the region, including Israel, to survival and security must be observed.

"There can be no German policy of either or", Chancellor Kohl has said, "but solely a policy of both the one and the other."

Bonn's efforts to arrive at a balanced German viewpoint on the Middle East seem largely to have been accepted in Jerusalem.

Israel's ambassador in Bonn agrees with Dr Kohl that Germany's cordial relations with Israel must not be at the cost of ties with the Arab world.

In recent years, he says, the United States has been able to boost its influence all over the Middle East by virtue of its close ties with Israel.

The same goes for Bonn: "If the Federal Republic of Germany is on speaking terms with us it is also in a position to relay our views to the Arabs if need be."

Mr Ben-ari says Israel views Bonn's advocacy of self-determination for the Palestinian people and its criticism of Israeli settlement policies in the West Bank as a difference of opinion between friends that imposes no burden on generally good relations.

"There are differences on these and a number of other tactical issues," he says, "but in general, German-Israeli ties are cordial."

Chancellor Kohl has timed his visit to Israel well. It is clear from talks with Israeli diplomats in Bonn that the Chancellor is highly rated for having stood by his word.

Israel well recalls that the European Community while Bonn was in the chair for the first half of 1983 steered clear of new, spectacular Middle East initiatives along Venice lines.

The EEC argued that enough plans were on the table, including President Reagan's proposals, which Dr Kohl backed when President Mubarak of Egypt visited Bonn.

The Chancellor appealed to all parties to the conflict to get round the negotiating table.

The Christian and Free Democratic Bonn coalition has from the outset left no doubt that it favours coordinating European Middle East policy and US efforts in the region, especially as Europe has scant opportunity of wielding influence.

A controversial and tricky issue in talks between Bonn and Jerusalem could well be Saudi Arabia's interest in ordering several hundred Mk 2 Leopard tanks from Germany.

Dr Kohl clearly stated before he left for Israel that arms supplies to other countries would not be on the agenda in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv.

But there was no ruling out the possibility of Premier Begin arguing the need to "make peace with fewer and fewer weapons" in his talks with the Chancellor.

Where supplying arms to trouble spots is concerned Dr Kohl is committed to a "common-sense middle-of-the-road approach."

He admits to not travelling to Israel with lightweight luggage. No-one who held responsibility in German public affairs could embark on th[e] unencumbered:

"Each of us has modern G[...] tory in his baggage."

Many accusations that we[re] generally or, as in Helmut [...] case, specifically and with [...] slightest justification could [...] be levelled at him.

The personal clash betwee[n] Schmidt and Mr Begin dat[...] spring 1981 when the Israeli P[...] cused the Chancellor of arro[gance and] impertinence.

He also voiced suspicions th[at] Herr Schmidt had been up to [...] active service with the Wehrm[acht on] the Eastern front.

He had no idea what Herr [...] had got up to where the Jews w[ere con]cerned on the Eastern front, [...] was where the Jews had been [...] ed for the most part.

It is Dr Kohl's first visit [...] where he is hardly known by t[he gene]ral public.

His hosts are keen for him t[o ...] idea of the reality of Israel's [...] and to come to appreciate m[...] gly Israel's need of security.

Angela [...]

(Frankfurter Allgem[eine Zeitung] für Deutschland, 22 A[ugust 1983])

Carstens turns down East Berlin invitation to Luther ceremony

Bonn President Karl Carstens has finally decided not to attend the Luther anniversary celebrations in East Berlin.

He has written to the GDR leader, Herr Honecker, saying he is prevented by previous engagements from taking part in the official ceremony on 9 November.

The overriding reason is naturally political. A visit by the Bonn head of state to East Berlin might, it is felt, affect the divided city's four-power status.

By the terms of this status East Berlin neither forms part of the GDR nor is its capital city.

Besides, President Carstens would have run the risk of being treated as a visiting head of state in the other German state.

As such he would be welcomed as head of a foreign state, which contradicts the Bonn view on intra-German relations.

He himself would have liked to attend the Church's Luther celebrations on 10 November in Eisleben, where Luther was born.

But he has not yet been invited.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 27 August 1983)

Continued from page 1

at which to go a step further t[han they] have chosen to do in the past.

The next round of Geneva [...] talks was due to start, and ne[...] the Russians and Chinese plan [...] me talks after a long break.

Mr Andropov's proposal wo[uld mean] that the SS-20s would not [...] transferred from Europe to t[he Far] East, which will naturally ease [...] between Moscow and Peking.

Above all, Moscow has go[ne on] the offensive in its dealings wit[h Wash]ington, which can (and will) [...] longer mark time over the zero [...]

Many points probably co[...] prompt the Russians to mak[e ...] move. They will have included [...] nation in much of the West to [...] own in face of the East Bloc arm[s build-]up.

Mr Andropov's predecessor, [...] Brezhnev, disregarded written [...] ments and verbal promises [...] the nuclear balance.

That was certain to be view[ed as a] challenge by the United States [...] allies. But one wonders whe[ther the] Americans were wise to conce[...] talking rather than acting.

Since the Reagan administra[tion ...] reverted to political action it ha[s ...] the Soviet Union to get down [...] tacks.

To this extent Mr Andropov's [propo]sal is no more, but no less, than [a] start.

Hans J. [...]

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 28 Au[gust 1983])

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PROTEST

[D]emonstrators learn how at training course

[...] of Germany's anti-nuclear peace [demon]strators have been put through a [train]ing course, in Fredelsloh, near Göt[tinge]n, in Lower Saxony. They were pre[parin]g for demonstrations expected this [autum]n in protest against the installation [of Am]erican missiles in Germany.

[Mo]nika, a teacher and mother of two, [i]s determined to join a sit-in on 14 [Octo]ber on the street in Nordenham, [the p]ort the American Army uses for its [milit]ary supplies for Northern Europe. [W]ill she be carried away by the Ger[man] police? Will she be battered with a [trunc]heon? She is frightened.

[A]nd so is Gert, a chemist working for [a] Hanover firm, who also intends [join]ing the sit-in.

[W]ill he be hit by water cannon? Will [he] be arrested, and for how long? Will [his] employer learn about it and sack [him]?

Udo is blind. He can only move [arou]nd the unfamiliar Fredelsloh with [the] help of the 15 peace fighters in his [grou]p.

[C]autiously, he threads his way. He, [too,] wants to join the sit-in.

[F]or him the situation could be more [crit]ical if violent groups behind him [star]t hurling stones and the police get [tou]gh. He is frightened, but he relies on [his] group.

[T]his group arrangement is the magic [for]mula for the nation-wide protests in [the a]utumn. It is the approach the anar[chist]s used in the Spanish Civil War of [the] 1930s and it is the way Ho Chi [Min]h organised his fighters in the Viet[nam] War against the Americans.

[T]oday's pacifist-anarchist movement, [a "g]rassroots revolution" on an interna[tiona]l scale, uses this approach to di[vide] the mass of peace activists, who [are] held together by a common ideolo[gy,] into independently operating tiny [grou]ps.

[T]he major differences between them [and] similar movements in history is [the] motto: fighting against violence [by] non-violent means.

[Y]ou have to learn non-violence, says [Mic]hael. He and two other "peace trai[ner]s" temporarily settled in Hanover [and] offered their services to the move[men]t.

Michael, a social worker and non-[viol]ence "pro," was hired by the Greens [alon]g with Klara, a university student [and] peace trainer from Münster. They [are] to teach the techniques of so-called [...] organisation.

[N]either Michael nor Klara has a [...]ist cadre background. Michael is [soft-]spoken and undogmatic. He is a [follo]wer of Mahatma Gandhi and Fran[cis] of Assisi.

[B]efore breakfast, he gathers spiritual [...]d" by meditating under a tree and [hav]ing a mystic "conversation" with a [roc]k wall.

Klara, who is more pragmatic, fami[liari]sed herself with the techniques of [non-]violence in the USA and Mexico, [whe]re she gained practical experience [in] protest action.

Half of the participants in the Fre[dels]loh seminar were Greens and the [oth]er half non-organised pacifists.

They accepted Michael and Klara as [te]amers."

The word reflects a problem: the teamer is the person who has the say within a group; but since the basic tenet of the grassroots movement is that there must be no leader but at best a spokesman, "teamer" is used for lack of a better term.

The groups of 15 are expected to be welded into teams by the autumn.

"Man, it's pretty lousy that you didn't let me finish what I was saying. It won't work this way," said Marita, not angrily, but gently.

She knew that everybody would agree with her on this point, even Klaus, the man to whom she said it.

Every group member can speak — and finish what he is saying. He can talk about his own feelings and fears and generally throw his views into the pot.

This basic idea of the group system provides everybody with warmth, a haven and identity.

Dealing with each other is rehearsed all the time in group games and controlled dialogues in which every speaker has to repeat what his predecessor has just said before airing his own views.

Discussion frequently goes in circles and is time-consuming, but all are patient.

Everybody knows the time that was spent listening and talking will pay off when the protest actions come and prevent a lot of frustration and misunderstandings.

The Greens and the Alternatives have their sights on the whole person. Following their teamer's suggestion, everybody tears a long piece off a roll of white wallpaper and lies on it, rehearsing a die-in and pretending to be a nuclear casualty.

Martin from Duderstadt traces Monika's contours with a felt-tip pen while she tries to figure in which part of her body she would feel fear in a sit-in or die-in. Martin marks that part of the body on the wallpaper.

Once all these wallpaper "X-rays" have been completed, group members seek out partners with the same fears.

There is jubilation when two people who feel the fear in their throats get together because until then everybody thought that he was alone with his particular kind of fear.

Dress rehearsal . . . demonstrators at school. (Photo: dpa)

Talking about their fears and being together with others helps overcome the fears.

To allay fears over a confrontation with the police and to keep the group operational, a special organisational system has been worked out for the thousands of demonstrators in the autumn.

The teamers, who are centrally controlled by the "Training Collective for Non-Violent Action" teach the same techniques everywhere. A group of 10 or 15 selects one of their number as the person who, during a sit-in, will supply them with food, look after the injured and arrested and maintain contact with the outside world.

This person must under no circumstance permit himself to be arrested; he must leave a demonstration when the police have ordered the demonstrators to disperse so that he can later fulfill his liaison function.

The group can also elect a press spokesman to provide journalists with information. But an even more important function is that of liaison with the police. This group member is to act as a courier between the police and the demonstrators but had no authority to negotiate.

Since these non-violent groups want to prevent any confrontation with the police, they are flexible and accomodating in their actions.

They want the police to know their strategy to prevent the force from overreacting and becoming violent out of helplessness.

The spokesman who represents his group in the spokesmen's council also has no negotiating or decision-making authority.

During a protest demonstration, the groups coordinate their actions by discussing them separately in each group. The group spokesman then presents his group's view to the spokesmen's council.

The council does not vote on any particular issue but disperses to enable the individual group spokesmen to convey the overall view to their own groups.

This is then discussed in the individual groups to revise their attitudes as needed to achieve an overall consensus.

The spokesman now puts his group's modified position before the council. Once this process of grassroots decision-making has been repated often enough and eventually leads to a consensus, a vote is no longer needed to take action.

The movement calls this a approach to a consensus a palaver.

The people at Fredelsloh training course also palavered deep into the night.

During these discussions, it emerged that there were two basic views that could not be reconciled with each other to result in a consensus.

Teamer Michael, for instance, said that the activists should accept the risk of arrest and, in extreme cases, up to five years' imprisonment. Others were in favour of limiting the risks out of consideration for their families and

Continued on page 12

Official portrait of the peace movement

Hans-Josef Horchem, who wrote this article for the *Hamburger Abendblatt*, is a former judge. He is a former head of the Hamburg *Land* branch of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution.

The peace movement is a "lower middle class protest movement" consisting primarily of young people with a high level of formal education, says a study by the Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz (Office for the Protection of the Constitution).

Its members, says the study are high school graduates and academics in such fields as political science, psychology and sociology.

There are between one and two million, and most of them regard themselves as being politically left-wing.

The movement regards the established democratic parties in this country (CDU/CSU, FDP and SPD) as incapable of dealing with the acute problems of the age.

The peace movement approves of the employment of left-wing extremists in the civil service and communists in government.

Though the peace movement does not want East German conditions in the Federal Republic, it believes that Moscow is serious about détente and that the USA is striving for military supremacy.

It regards squatting as a legitimate means in remedying the unsocial use of property and rejects the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

The peace movement is not a monolithic organisation but a mass movement motivated by a wide variety of elements, the study says. Its ties with communist organisations are ambivalent.

Most of its members regard the German Communist Party (DKP) as a political opponent with whom one can ally oneself for a limited period of time.

But the CDU/CSU is a clear enemy. While envisaging a temporary alliance with a political opponent, no such alliance is possible with the enemy.

The peace movement is the end result of a development at Germany's universities that began in the late 1960s and reached its climax in the 1970s.

With its so-called "trade union orien-

Continued on page 13

■ RESEARCH

Scientists' journey to the centre of the Earth

Outer space has been charted intensively by modern optical and radiotelescopes. By comparison, little or nothing is known about inside the Earth.

Drilling has not reached depths of more than a few miles. Geoscientists owe most of what they know about the Earth's interior to volcanic material or indirect measurements, such as seismic and magnetic field readings.

This was the state of affairs faced by the 18th general assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics in Hamburg.

It was attended by about 3,000 scientists from nearly 80 countries. It was the first time this gigantic gathering has ever been held in Germany.

The organisation was set up in 1919 with a view to coordinating the various scientific disciplines. There was a wide-ranging debate in Hamburg on a correspondingly wide range of subjects.

They included the physics and chemistry of the Earth's interior, volcanism, terrestrial magnetism, meteorology, atmospheric physics, oceanography and geodesy, or earth measurement on a large scale.

Aspects that recurred in all debates were the importance of natural resources and possible natural catastrophes and global climate trends.

The technical and scientific methods used by geophysics, oceanography, meteorology and geodesy have lately added to our store of knowledge about the internal and external make-up of the planet on which we live.

We are also in a better position to forecast climate trends that may be expected.

Data are collected by satellite, aircraft and ships all over the world. Changes in the Earth's surface are registered.

More is likewise learnt about the Earth's gravitational and magnetic fields.

Only recently, for instance, have exact measurements confirmed the continental drift theory drawn up in 1910 by Alfred Wegener.

Scientists are now in a position to measure the distance between one continent and another to within a few inches.

The techniques they use make it possible to record the tiniest changes in the Earth's surface, continental drift and the oceans, such as seabed and surface structures.

A key role in geodesy is now played by space research and technology. Satellites can measure altitudes to within four inches.

This degree of precision enables scientists to quantify variations in the Earth's rotation, changes in its gravitational field and the precise effect of the tides.

Satellites can also be used to make a more detailed and accurate survey of the seas.

Global measurements should help to improve protection of the oceanic environment while providing geophysicists and climatologists with valuable pointers toward better and longer-range weather forecasting.

Slight variations in currents and eddies that influence the weather can be identified much sooner than troughs or crests in atmospheric pressure.

For research into the global climate the behaviour and condition of the oceans are factors that must be known and taken into consideration.

One problem geodesy faces arises from the increasing accuracy of measurements. It is the exact terms of refer-



ence in which findings are best described.

What is needed is a fixed point, and there is none on a planet where *everything is on the move* (even though, as in the case of continental drift, the movement may be slow).

Quasars, the furthest-known objects in the universe seem, in contrast, to be stationary points of reference.

Their movement in relation to the Earth is so infinitesimal, partly because they are so far distant, that even when readings are accurate to within millimetres they may be taken to be stationary in space.

There are between 30 and 40 major outbreaks of volcanic activity a year. Most occur in uninhabited areas, especially in the Pacific, so they give rise to little or no interest.

Yet they testify to unrest in the bowels of the Earth.

People as a rule only show interest in seismic activity when volcanoes erupt in densely-populated areas, and then they follow the course of events with close attention and interest.

Geophysicists and geochemists are interested in all volcanic activity as a matter of principle. For them they are a window through which they can peep at the Earth's interior to a depth of 200 miles.

Volcanoes are more than a mere source of information about the composition of the molten matter inside the Earth. They are also an environmental hazard and can be a danger to life and limb.

In major eruptions dust particles and toxic gases such as sulphur dioxide can shoot into the atmosphere up to an altitude of 40 miles.

Effects on the climate and even on the acid rain that is despoiling woods and forests cannot, as they say, be ruled out.

So Unesco plans to set up a worldwide mobile volcano warning system to warn people of the dangers that may face them in good time.

In Germany eruptions might occur in the Eifel hills south of Bonn. The Eifel is the most recent volcanic area in Central Europe.

The magma chambers de... the Earth's upper crust in the... growing in size, so fresh o... volcanic activity in the Eifel c... ly happen.

On balance, however, the E... tive bowels do mankind goo... nental drift does not just ke... nents on the move; it also cr... volcanic crusts with mineral de...

Pressure forces sea water i... sea divides. This water is hea... hot magma chambers down b... washes valuable mineral ore o... newly-opened seams.

Thermic impetus sends thi... of water and ore back into th... The heavy ore is then deposit... ocean bed.

This is a phenomenon observ... time ago in the Pacific. A... points along the East Paci... scientists have discovered bla... kers.

They are currents of hot wat... metres in diameter, black in co... boiling away at a temperatu... degrees centigrade.

The water contains iron, cop... kel and other valuable heav... These ocean-bed deposits can... exploited. It will be several... years before they are thick e... mining to be worthwhile.

But there are likely to be d... elsewhere on the ocean bed wh... phenomenon occurred millenni... where mining might make som... mercial sense.

Rüdiger Scheu...

(Die Welt, 20 Au...)

Something afoot deep in the Milky Way

German astronomers feel they have discovered a new breeding ground of stars in the making in our own galaxy, *the Milky Way*.

Radioastronomical observation has revealed pointers to the existence of at least eight such stars in the vicinity of the North America and Pelican nebulas in the sign of the Swan.

They are stars in which nuclear processes such as those in our own Sun are under way.

They can only be observed on radio or possibly infra-red wavelengths because the dense clouds of gas and dust surrounding them completely cut off optical radiation.

The discovery is outlined in the latest issue of *Astronomy and Astrophysics* by Professor Heinrich J. Wendker and his associates at Hamburg Observatory and Dr. J. W. M. Baars of the Max Planck Radioastronomy Institute, Bonn.

It is the result of a closer radioastronomical look at the nebula complex for recharting purposes in the course of which its distance from our own solar system was reestimated.

The North America and Pelican nebulas are now felt to be 1,650 light years away. Earlier estimates ranged from 600 to 3,300 light years.

There have long been known to be many nebulas of gas and dust in the Milky Way that must be regarded as the birthplaces of new stars.

US scientists say there must be 5,000 or so, most being within a broad ring between 12,000 and 24,000 light years away from the centre of the galaxy.

Optically the North America and Pelican nebulas are two galactic nebulas in which interstellar gas shines brightly, heated by hot stars.

But Professor Wendker proved in 1968 that the two formed part of an extensive area of ionised hydrogen in which, at temperatures of 10,000 degrees, hydrogen atoms are broken down into their constituent electrons and protons.

Carbon monoxide observation in recent years has led to the conclusion that the dark cloud which obscures the complex from our vantage point is a gigantic molecular cloud of roughly 50,000 times the mass of the Sun.

It is a potential area for new stars to take shape in, but the cloud consists of such dense gas and dust that it absorbs the light of the stars behind it.

Using radiotelescopes, German astronomers have been able to look through the dark cloud into the ionised back yard of the star factory.

The visible parts of the gigantic nebula complex are on the outskirts of the dark cloud.

Professor Wendker has spent years observing the ionised area, also known as the H II region, at a frequency of 2,695 megahertz, which corresponds to a wavelength of about 11 centimetres.

He has compiled an isophote chart that resembles the isobars on a met chart and on which points of identical radiation intensity are joined by a line.

Professor Wendker and his associates used for their observations the world's largest radiotelescope of its kind, at Effelsberg, near Bonn.

In addition to the 100-metre dish antenna at Effelsberg they used the high-resolution radio interferometer at Westerbork, Holland.

In distribution of radiation intensity eight specially formed centres were found to exist behind the dark cloud. The German scientists feel they must be the locations of eight young sta... spectral category zero.

Stars in this category are hot a... in mass but have only a short li... million years (given that our ow... system has been in existence fo... million years).

The location of these stars, at... edge of the dark cloud obscu... North America and Pelican ne... very much in keeping with a m... how stars come about.

The theory of how stars are... still in its early days, but they... sumed to originate when gas a... of interstellar origin begin to c... trate despite centrifugal forces.

During this concentration th... of gravity ensure an extremely r... influx of matter until a stage is r... at which the mass is perhaps 10... that of our Sun.

The dense matter collaps... potential energy is released as h... the so-called protostar a tempe... high enough to trigger nuclear fu... reached and hydrogen is convert... helium.

In the present stage of the... Way's development stars are felt... ginate in groups rather than singl...

The trigger is the collapse of t... of interstellar matter into ever... disintegrating fragments.

Stars seem predestined to be b... the spiral arms of the Milky Wa... tem. In this case it is in the rear... spiral arm of which the solar syst... part.

In an interview with *DPA* Pr... Wendker has said he feels there... be another star factory to the... west of the North America-P... complex and about 100 light yea... ther away.

But he is not sure whether it... part of the same dark cloud or is... tirely new and independent nebul...

Rudolf Merget...

(Der Tagesspiegel, 18 Aug...)

THE MEDIA

Cable television goes ahead, but first it must be sold

...he Bonn government has speeded up plans to introduce cable televi-...n. It has increased expenditure and approved plans for major pilot pro-...s in four cities.

...he first is in Ludwigshafen, where ...t 150,000 homes will be connected. ...others are in Dortmund, Munich ...West Berlin. In addition other ...e TV projects are already operating. ...ransmission in Ludwigshafen, the ...t ambitious of the programmes, is ...due to begin for another four ...ths.

...he company running the operation ...sing that time to sell it. The compa-...s chief, Claus Detjen, says the ques-...s most often asked are: how much ...l the new service cost? and: what ...we get for the money?

...iewers are needed for at least eight, ...d probably 11 or more channels on ...ich about 80 commercial operators ...e expected to screen programmes. ...The higher the viewer ratings, the fas-...r and further the scheme will get off ...e ground.

...Keen interest is being shown at ...ublic meetings held to publicise the ...roject. If interest is sustained once ...rogrammes are available, Herr Detjen ...nd his corporation will be satisfied.

But in Ludwigshafen and area no-one ...ally knows for sure how media consu-...ers will respond once the service is ...eirs for the asking.

And the story is the same everywhere ...the country where the Bundespost is ...y laying the new cables needed to ...ly cable TV to the consumer.

Germany, like Britain, is content to ...e coaxial cable, although many would ...ve gone for optical fibre cable, which ...more expensive but can carry much ...ore.

Companies selling consumer goods ...ke a long, hard look the market be-...re going into it.

But Deutsche Bundespost, which ...th a payroll of nearly 550,000 is the ...rgest service operating in the country, ...s not yet done this with cable TV.

It is less than a year since Posts and ...elecom Minister Christian Schwarz-...chilling announced plans to introduce ...ountrywide cable TV.

So far the Bundespost has concen-...ated on laying the cables. Only lately ...as it got round to marketing what may ...ell be an expensive service.

Starting next month there will be a ...untrywide billboard campaign. Local ...epresentatives will approach potential ...stomers.

People will be asked to fill in and re-...rn reply-paid postcards indicating ...eir interest.

There would have been little point in ...unching an advertising campaign ...uch sooner. The Bundespost did not ...ecide until July what rates it was going ...charge.

"Until then," a member of Herr Det-...n's staff admits, "we were virtually ...ught with out pants down as soon as ...omeone at a meeting asked the obvious ...first question: 'What is it going to ...cost?'"

What a dilemma it must have been to have to market a product before you knew how much it was going to cost!

The price list is now available, but it doesn't look as though it is going to be particularly helpful to the sales staff.

For the pleasure, always assuming it is one, of being able to tune in to dozens of programmes instead of the present four on TV, viewers will have to pay a high initial price.

Installation is to cost DM500 per household, or DM250 as an introductory offer.

Charges will vary for running cables from the cellar to the socket behind the TV set. In blocks of flats they could total several thousand marks.

Another initial investment may be necessary if the TV set needs adapting to receive all programmes in colour, for instance.

The monthly rental, in addition to the standard TV licence fee, will be DM9.

What does one get in return? In the Hanover area the Bundespost already offers 10 extra cable TV programmes without having hired a special corporation to supervise activities.

They are, for the most part, the three existing channels of Federal Republic TV, the two GDR channels and the British forces' BFBS.

Twenty-one different radio programmes are also piped in this way.

But the viewing public in Hanover has not been wildly excited. Viewers were promised first-rate reception, including stereo, as well as the wider range of programmes.

"Applications haven't exactly been coming in thick and fast," a Bundespost spokesman admitted in Hanover earlier this summer.

Yet in Wolfsburg the demand is reported to be most encouraging. Next year an estimated one household in three that has access to cable TV will be paying for the privilege.

That is the percentage the postal authorities say is needed if the service is to be worthwhile.

In Munich, which is another pioneer alongside Ludwigshafen, 10 per cent at most have so far shown interest. Cable TV is scheduled to start early next year, at roughly the same time as in Ludwigshafen, but one household in five was the initial target.

The Ludwigshafen target area has been extended. So has the Munich area. In both cases the number of viewers would presumably have been too low to make the project worthwhile.

West Berlin, the third pioneer area, is currently in the lead with 95,000 households plugged in. Yet even this proportion (the city has a population of two million) would be too low for a commercial operator in the United States to run the risk.

In America at least three and a half million customers are felt to the least an operator must have to break even.

If the same standard were applied in Germany all current cable TV plans would look as though they were being subsidised for the foreseeable future.

German viewers may feel the proposed charges are high, but they are definitely not high enough to cover costs.

This is a point that has been clear from a survey by Blaupunkt, the Hildesheim radio manufacturers, for Lingen, a town in Lower Saxony, that was published a year ago.

The government of Lower Saxony plans to sanction commercial cable TV as a counterweight to the established broadcasting corporations.

Initially, the survey concludes, it will have to subsidise the arrangement heavily. Costs could be recouped from local advertising, but Lower Saxony has no plans to allow advertising for the time being.

In Berlin and in Dortmund, the fourth pioneer area, political considerations, not financial misgivings, are what have impeded progress toward cable TV.

In Berlin the new Arts Senator, Herr Hassomer, is unhappy about the cable TV project as planned by his predecessor, Herr Kewenig.

Instead, he is tabling plans of his own that have more in common with the arrangements envisaged in Munich and Ludwigshafen.

In North Rhine-Westphalia, which has a Social Democratic state government, arrangements for Dortmund, an SPD city, have yet to be approved by the state assembly.

In Düsseldorf, the state capital, the Social Democrats are strictly in favour of retaining the existing broadcasting corporation status.

Dortmund's cable TV is to be managed by Westdeutscher Rundfunk, the existing corporation, which has head offices in Cologne. That is how the SPD would like to see the operation run.

Yet views even differ on this proposal. Dortmund campaigners are opposed to cable TV of any kind, while the city council would prefer the Bundespost to wait until optical cables can be laid.

At present coaxial cables are still envisaged. Indeed, the Bundespost has been busy since March laying copper cables round Dortmund from the city centre to the Westfalenhalle and the WDR studios.

In the New Year cable viewers in Ludwigshafen and Munich will have a choice of new programmes screened by newcomers to German TV.

All manner of small-time newcomers are booking time on the new channels, Herr Detjen's corporation reports. The only established competitor will be ZDF, the Second Channel of West German TV.

ZDF will be running a cable TV channel in cooperation with EPF, a newspaper proprietors' association.

The newcomers include local evening class organisers, the churches, the Civil Service Association and regional and national lobbies of one kind and another.

Pop music, films and sport will be screened by a wide range of new operators who have suddenly appeared in surprising numbers.

They include a leading media company in Frankfurt that is run jointly by savings banks and retail traders and has been dubbed the "jam factory."

Others are small fry who are only in a position to broadcast for three or four hours every other week.

Some plan to pipe TV programmes round the clock, and pundits expect there to be a battle royal for survival in an initial phase when there are very few viewers.

Not long after German cable TV gets going there will be competition from outer space, as it were.

TV satellites willô relay a wide range of professional programmes aimed at viewers in the Federal Republic by operators in other European countries.

Dieter Tasch

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 19 August 1983)

The hidden contradictions

Continued from page 8

alysis does not amount to a new strategy (it is merely a preliminary paper that must first be approved by Nato), its having been countersigned by the Bundeswehr C-in-C is problematic.

It makes nonsense of the official version of forward defence that has invariably been advocated by Bonn governments.

Sceptics have always had their doubts about the political interpretation that the forward defence concept strictly meant front-line defence and not attack!

But no German politician or military man has yet said anything in breach of this interpretation.

The same is true of the military contradiction that arises the moment the deterrent fails to do the trick,

This contradiction is that the country must be able and willing to fight a defensive war but that in the Federal Republic of Germany there is no way of preventing what is supposedly to be defended from being destroyed.

Meinhard Glanz has achieved the distinction of breaking both taboos simultaneously. Political consequences naturally follow.

An army that is equipped and trained for offensive defence with the declared aim of winning must, at least in the potential opponent's view, be capable of attacking too.

A concept that is based on victory also runs counter to bids to end any military clash as soon as possible by a political solution.

Against this background it is immaterial whether it is a matter of a new strategy or preliminary considerations in prepration for one.

In endorsing such plans General Glanz has unquestionably undermined the priority of politics. So a clear statement with regard to these plans is long overdue on the Bonn government's part.

It must be made, regardless whether or not it runs counter to German-American harmony and even though the plans are in reality the result of a congenital defect, as it were.

Karl-Heinz Harenberg

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 28 August 1983)

■ THE ARTS

Franz Radziwill dies at 88: a style of magic realism

Against the background of a brightly lit city skyline a plane crashes. On a dilapidated farm a gaping rift runs clean through the walls and soil. A ragged sky lurks threateningly over a fish cutter perched on a bright pink beach.

These are motifs typical of the painter Franz Radziwill, who has died in Wilhelmshaven aged 88.

Three times in a long lifetime Radziwill, who moved to Dangast, a small North Sea resort near Wilhelmshaven, in the early 1920s, was almost totally forgotten.

Three times his work was rediscovered. It is now seen as having been a major contribution, over and above passing trends, to post-Expressionist art.



Radziwill's 'The Strike,' 1931. (Photo: Catalogue)

His name is most associated with the *Neue Sachlichkeit* and magic realism movements.

Radziwill's overriding motif was the cracked and fissured character of the modern world, the encroachment of technology on the landscape and the threat of catastrophe from the cosmos.

Time and again he depicts flying objects hurtling earthwards, strange celestial formations hanging over large landscapes, satellites falling from dark clouds and outsize suns casting a pale light.

Franz Radziwill was born on 6 February 1895 in Strohhausen, a village near the Weser (and not far from where he spent all his adult life).

He grew up in Bremen and studied art at the municipal art college just before the Great War.

He was originally closely associated with Otto Modersohn and Heinrich Vogeler in Worpswede, then for a while in post-war Berlin with the revolutionary November group.

In his early Expressionist phase he painted hovering figures reminiscent of Chagall and brisk painterly gestures such as were characteristic of Brücke artists Schmidt-Rottluff, Heckel and Pechstein.

He then began to make a name for himself and made friends with Otto Dix and George Grosz.

In 1922 he moved to Dangast, where the Brücke group had earlier painted, with a fresh start in mind. That was the first caesura in his life.

He travelled time and again to Amsterdam to model his work on the Dutch old masters. They were his source of inspiration for technique.

In his new home, an old fisherman's house several times converted and renovated, he developed his *Neue Sachlichkeit*, magic realism style.

It was to be his, virtually unchanged, for the rest of his working life.

The shock of the First World War continued to influence his choice of subjects. He saw active service in both world wars and presaged in a visionary manner the impending conflagration.

In 1933 he was given a post at the Düsseldorf art college but dismissed two years later as a cultural Bolshevik and his work branded as depraved.

During the Third Reich he travelled widely. After the war he regained popularity for a short spell, but was forgotten again in the heyday of abstract art.

He was rediscovered at the end of the 1960s when a major exhibition of his work was held in Cologne. Further shows of his work were staged, including one in London by the Arts Council in 1978-79. He has since been acknowledged as a leading representative of the *Neue Sachlichkeit* tendency. He was no longer able to paint because of poor vision from 1971. Two hundred works of his were shown in Berlin at a major retrospective held in November 1981. His paintings were flanked by as many water colours, drawings and prints from over 50 years of work.

Peter Engel/dpa
(General-Anzeiger Bonn, 15 August 1983)

Suleiman The Great, a contemporary etching. (Photo: ...)

200 exhibits recall Turkish siege of Vienna

By the end of July 10,000 people had seen the *Münster, Vienna and the Turks* 1683-1983 exhibition at the Stadtmuseum in Münster, Westphalia.

The 300th anniversary of the Turkish siege of Vienna presents an opportunity of taking a wider look at German-Turkish relations over more than 500 years.

The emhasis is on Münster in particular, and about 200 exhibits convey an impression of how ties developed from the Turkish wars of the 15th to 18th centuries.

They were followed by German-Turkish friendship up to and including the present, with its influx of migrant workers from Turkey.

Experts say the range of exhibits in Münster and the didactic conception behind the way in which they are arranged compare well with the much larger exhibitions in Vienna.

Three hundred years ago, on [...]tember 1683, the Turks were rout[...] Vienna was relieved, and large-sca[...] hibitions are being held in the Au[...] capital to commemorate the event.

The three stages in German-T[...] relations, war, friendship and th[...] sent day, are strikingly outli[...] Münster by exhibits that include [...] ings, documents, textiles, pa[...] coins and weapons and equipment.

Most exhibits are on loan fro[...] vate collections. They include [...] century "Turkish spoils" from [...] the Ruhr.

A particularly valuable exhibi[...] allegorical picture painted in [...] Bartholomäus Spranger for the [...] Roman Emperor Rudolf II entitl[...] Kaiser and the Reich as Victors o[...] Ottomans.

After the capture of Constan[...] by the Turks in 1453 the Ottoman [...] pire kept Central Europe at [...] breath. There were hostilities for [...] ries, and the tide was not turned [...] 1683.

The Christian West then went [...] the offensive and pushed the in[...] of the Ottoman Empire back. The [...] bition features many pointers to M[...] ter and environs dating back to [...] period.

Forces were raised from the Mü[...] area on several occasions to figh[...] Turks. Commanders also came fro[...] region.

The last occasion was in 1664 [...] the troops were commanded by Pr[...] Bishop Christoph Bernhard von Ga[...]

A section of the exhibition fea[...] paintings by the Münster artist [...] Grotemeyer, 1864-1946. They give [...] idea of Turkish society in the day[...] the Ottoman Empire.

Another section deals with Ger[...] Turkish ties in the present day. Co[...] five centuries reflect the cours[...] events.

(Nordwest Zeitung, 10 Au[...])

School for demonstrators

Continued from page 9

their jobs and because they were simply frightened.

The soft line was taken and there was no vote.

Policemen were rarely referred to as *Bullen* (a derogatory term similar to "pig") and the general tone was rather peaceful.

The participants pinned their hopes on the individual police officers' willingness to talk it out. They were trying to work out methods that would enable them to get to the human being behind the shield and helmet by such means as sitting upright and looking the policeman in the eye.

They were agreed that they would disperse peacefully the moment violent minorities entered the picture and that they would even form a protective wall between the rabble and the police.

"We must grow strong without losing our tenderness," Kalle, a huge civil servant, wrote in the wall newspaper.

Pretending to be a truncheon-wielding policeman (the truncheon was made of paper), he manhandled three woman protesters, dragging them off the street and dropping them none too gently.

At breakfast, the women complained about Kalle's roughness, displaying their black and blue marks.

Though fear of physical injury was the dominant element when the group analysed its fears, there was also the fear that the group could fall, that it could disintegrate and that the members could lose the feeling of community and fall back into loneliness.

Babette, a housewife and mother of two, rejects the idea that it is all pointless because the arms race will go on anyway. Her philosophy is: "I owe them my life."

Jens Gundlach
(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 6 August 1983)



■ HERITAGE

A day out for all the family with the Neanderthal Man



[...]isit to the Neanderthal Museum is [...]arely an end in itself. The valley [...] few kilometres east of Düsseldorf [...]lways been a favourite destination [...]mily and school outings.

[...] visit to the museum after a picnic [...]ly comes as an afterthought.

[...] museum is picturesquely sited [...] a forest path and completely [...] with its environment.

[...]he head of the valley, the mood is [...] a plaster of Paris reconstruction [...]o neanderthalensis, the man who [...]he valley famous.

[...]owe his discovery to an early case [...]vironmental destruction. Until [...]the middle of the last century, the [...] was still wild, with dank caves [...]terfalls.

[...]then quarrying began and its face [...]hanged but homo neanderthalen[...]s uncovered.

[...]4 September 1856, the *Barmer [...]blatt* carried this front page item: [...]prising find was recently made in [...]earby Neander Valley. In the [...] of quarrying, which cannot be de[...] enough from a landscape point [...]w, workers entered a cave that had [...]filled with mud over the centuries. [...]hile removing they mud, they [...]d a human skeleton that would no [...]t have been ignored had it not [...] for Dr Fuhlroth from Elberfeld [...] saved the find and examined it."

[...]omewhat hastily, the *Bürgerblatt* [...]cluded: "The examination of the [...]leton, especially the skull, showed [...]t the human being belonged to the [...]mily of flat-heads, of whom there are [...]l some living in the West of the United States."

Dr Johann Carl Fuhlroth, a natural [...]nce teacher, was convinced for the [...]t of his life that the skeleton was about 60,000 years old and that the man had been washed into the cave by Noah's Flood. But other experts doubted this.

The surgeon Rudolf Virchow, the founder of pathology, never departed from his contention that homo neanderthalensis was a modern-day man who had had rickets as a child and was later plagued by arthritis. He also reckoned that he had received several severe blows on the head during his life.

Dr Fuhlroth was proved right in the end. Neanderthal Man lived between 200,000 and 40,000 BC and was not restricted to the Neander Valley. Skeletons have also been found in the Mediterranean region and the Middle East.

In 1932, a small museum devoted primarily to natural history was established in the valley to provide an adequate setting for the Neanderthal find: the top of a skull, a few ribs and some other bones, 14 pieces in all.

Apart from this, the museum also houses a few other prehistoric remains.

But the actual attraction of the valley has been the 23-hectare neighbouring game reserve that was established a few years later and has the kind of animals that existed in the Neanderthal Man's era: bison, musk oxen, tarpans (a type of wild horse) and deer.

The museum remained unchanged for a long time. The animal reserve became somewhat overgrown and the bison fell prey to disease.

In 1947, a new museum was built with the ambitious aim of providing a "window on the Ice Age." But the plans had to be scrapped when the money ran out. So there is no new museum, but only a redecorated one, with work still going on.

The aim now is to present educational material on pre-history.

Volker Freund, the manager of the society behind the project: "Our most frequent visitors are classes of schoolchildren and we want to continue catering to them."

The new museum can be described as a blend of objective information and prehistoric kitsch.

Naturally, the schoolchildren are much more attracted to the life-sized replicas of Neanderthalers in their glass showcases than to the few scattered bones of genuine Neanderthalers.

The museum will have to continue its efforts to steer clear of becoming an Ice Age Disneyland. And it will have to preserve its educational element.

A reconstructed Neanderthal man's cave is at some point to be manned by a museum guide who will show how Stone Age man made his tools.

Professor Gerhard Bosinski of Cologne University, who has been advising the museum for years, will ensure that the information provided is accurate.



He's outlasted them all . . . Neanderthal Man. (Photo: Marianne Kolarik)

The closeness of the cooperation between the museum and Cologne University is evidenced by the fact that the museum's basement will house one section of the University's Stone Age department.

The same association that is looking after the museum now wants to improve the animal reserve as well. Next year, it will be enlarged to 30 hectares and completely re-organised.

Cologne Zoo has already promised the loan of some of its animals and Mu-

Continued on page 15

Communists take their chance

Continued from page 9

tation policy," the DKP student organisation MSB Spartakus succeeded in establishing selective and liberal student organisations.

The success of this cooperation has now prompted the non-communists in the peace movement to accept offers of alliance and organisational assistance from orthodox communists in political fields unrelated to university life.

People who were discussion partners ten years ago while at university now again face each other at the peace movement's regional conferences.

The Committee for Peace, Disarmament and Cooperation (Kofaz) which the DKP founded in 1974 originally presented itself as yet another front organisation of this country's orthodox Communist Party and was therefore viewed with a certain aloofness.

The hundreds of local committees and initiatives of the Kofaz rarely managed to rally more than 25,000 people a year for its demonstrations. Most of these people were DKP members.

This changed when the public realised that the détente policy of the Schmidt-Genscher government was unable to prevent the Soviet arms buildup. The political discussion increasingly revolved around the military supremacy of the East Bloc and the consequences for the West.

The 1979 dual-track Nato decision (calling for the deployment of new medium-range missiles if arms limitation talks fail) found relatively little response in the Western media. The press largely restricted itself to straight reporting on day-to-day events.

As a result, the public was uninformed about the actual consequences of the Nato decision. There was growing fear among a minority group that the dual-track decision would lead to a mounting overkill capacity.

This is where the organisational instruments of the DKP and its front organisations came into their own.

After several months of preparation, this country's orthodox communists, using the Kofaz and the German Peace Union (DFU) as fronts, managed to pass the Krefeld Appeal as far back as November 1980.

The organisers of the event, which was attended by about 1,000 people, used the Nato decision to fuel the public's worry that peace could be in jeopardy.

They seized upon the fear of a nuclear showdown and the willingness of wide segments of our youth to demonstrate against the Bundeswehr and Nato.

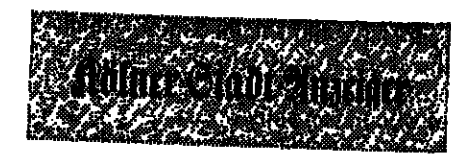
In this they were supported by the Young Democrats (the young members' branch of the FDP) and sceptics from the left wing of the SPD.

Hans-Josef Horchem
(Hamburger Abendblatt, 15 August 1983)



MODERN LIVING

Viewing standards hit rock bottom as video booms



"Do you always have to have a zombie film?" a mother asks her son, 12, as they pay the local video lending library their weekly visit.

Sonny boy's answer is short and to the point. "if you're taking home another of those sex films I don't see why I shouldn't have a zombie."

His mother is at a loss for an answer, so they call it quits.

Back home in the peace and quiet of their own home, and thousands of others all over the country, families draw the curtains and settle down in their armchair for a video session.

They watch cannibals gouging out the guts of their victims, iron chains clank round human necks and pulled tight until the necks snap, and people screaming in pain as they are tortured.

This perverted film fare is viewed on TV and taken in with eagle eyes by young people in particular. Video has attained craze proportions.

If trade sources can be taken as any guide there seems to be a burgeoning demand for perversion, horror, blood and gore.

Figures are readily available to support the claim that there is a demand for perverted entertainment.

About 4,000 cassette titles are available at video lending libraries with a total stock of 1.4 million cassettes, and 45 per cent of turnover comes in the categories "war," "action" and "horror" films.

"Adventure," "crime" and "Western" cassettes account for a further quarter of loans, "erotic" films for a further 12 per cent.

Films for children and young people trail well behind in the also-ran category, making up a mere seven per cent of turnover.

The Germans seem to have become a nation of video consumers. Nowhere in the world, not even in TV-mad America, is the percentage of homes with video equipment as high.

One household in 10 already has a video set, and in three years' time it will be an estimated one household in three or even every other home.

Almost everyone will then have access to video facilities that enable them to arrange a personal programme of screen entertainment.

It is hardly surprising that children and young people are no exception to the general increase in demand for private viewing.

The leisure activities of young people nowadays can be classified as the three Os, it has been said: audio, video and disco.

Of the three, video is gaining increasing importance. Porn was long top of the video pops, but the trend among both juveniles and adults is now toward more bloodcurdling fare.

People who have risen from the dead, sadists and butchers of men, werewolves and other animals in human form (or vice-versa) are what the kids clamour for at the videotheque.

A ban on selling the film to juveniles issued by the Bonn government agency that vets books, comics, magazines and films for the young is definitely a seal of quality as the kids see it.

And when 10- to 15-year-olds get together for a session of really sickening video violence it is a kind of chicken test along the lines of: "I never would have thought he could have sat through something like that without feeling ill."

Getting hold of suitable cassettes and putting a programme together are seen by young people as a kind of sport, and as matters stand, blacklisting or no blacklisting, there is little to stop them from hiring the material.

If their parents don't have the right films on hire, maybe the neighbours will have something, and many schoolkids earn a little pocket money on the side by lending their parents' video cassettes to classmates.

Older brothers and sisters are roped in if the dealer refuses to lend blacklisted material to juveniles.

Many a youth worker has unwittingly supplied a youth club or home with what seemed to be a harmless cassette but turned out to be hot stuff.

Politicians and officials responsible for looking after the young are increasingly conscious of the fact that serious problems lie ahead.

There has certainly been no lack of verbal commitments to do something about video cassettes that pervert the morals of the young.

From the North Rhine-Westphalian Justice Ministry in Düsseldorf to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in Hanover everyone is agreed that something must be done.

It is high time the powers that be did something to afford young people some protection. But who are the powers that be and what can they do?

So far, or so it would seem, the Bonn government agency mentioned earlier has been solely responsible. But it can only take action of any kind if requested to do so by, say, a local authority youth department official.

What happens is that a film is submitted for vetting and, maybe, then blacklisted.

Often enough the blacklisted film is simply reissued with a fresh title and sent back to the video libraries where it continues to do a roaring trade.

The Bonn agency has strictly limited resources and is not equipped to handle the number of applications it is getting these days.

Its manpower was recently increased, but now youth departments are taking a closer look at the video problem matters are getting out of hand for the Bonn civil servants.

Last year the youth department in Neuss, near Düsseldorf, applied for no fewer than 744 video cassette films to be blacklisted.

About 200 films in all have so far been blacked, 600 applications are still being processed and new applications are coming in at the rate of 20 a month.

After lengthy hesitation the Bonn government has finally decided to amend the current Youth Protection Bill to deal with the video problem.

The aim is to introduce a voluntary self-censorship system similar to the scheme that has been run for decades by the German film industry.

Cassettes would then be vetted by a panel consisting of local authority officials and representatives of the film industry and certified suitable for certain age groups.

Films that are considered unsuitable for young people in general may not be sold to juveniles. Advertising them is prohibited. They can only be sold under the counter or in special rooms to which kids have no access.

The Bill is to be enacted by next spring at the latest.

The law enforcement agencies are also taking a keener interest in the subject. In the first six months of this year public prosecutor's offices in North Rhine-Westphalia have launched proceedings in 359 cases of marketing actionable video cassettes.

Last year the number of ca[...] entire year was 247.

Doubts have been raised a[...] ther moves of this kind in [...] with the amended Youth Pro[...] will solve the problem or me[...]

Rudolf Stefen, head of [...] agency, does not feel volunt[...] ship arrangements are likely [...] very effective.

Blacklisting alone is more [...] his view because an offender [...] ble to imprisonment, whereas [...] against age-limit regulations [...] little more than nominal fines.

Too much play is made [...] neyed talk about the danger [...] people. What, Herr Stefen as[...] adults? It is adult demand tha[...] film-makers to keep the output [...]

There is little point in wonde[...] people are so keen on horror [...] has seen so many in his time [...] in a position to express a lev[...] opinion.

"Horror films," he says, "s[...] on an aspect of human perve[...] has so far been paid little atten[...]

Parents may be starting to [...] more in public about their [...] video viewing but they tend [...] pocritical, says SPD Bundes[...] Klaus Lennartz.

He discussed the subject wi[...] at a secondary school in Fre[...] Cologne, and found that none [...] were prepared to admit that [...] access kids had to video equip[...] cassettes was in their own hom[...]

Force or persuasi[...]

Herr Stefen feels there are [...] ways in which to eradicate the [...] There must either be a total ban [...] manufacture of horror films [...] makers must be persuaded to [...] this line of business voluntarily.

The first option would am[...] censorship, which he says is a [...] direction non-one would want [...] cond, he feels, might be feasible.

Several leading manufacture[...] as Bertelsmann-Verlag and W[...] scher Rundfunk, have announc[...] for voluntary restraint in their [...] horror film cassettes.

But there could be enorm[...] flicts of interest. Westdeutscher [...] funk as a broadcasting auth[...] strongly opposed to video be[...] competes for the attention of [...] diences.

Yet the corporation earn[...]

Continued on page 15

CHILDREN

Sailing 'effective therapy' for aggressive misfits

[...]ling as a method of helping juve[...]les with severe behaviourial prob[...]s having startling results, accord[...] the head of a psychology clinic.

[...]fessor Klaus Schenck told a meet[...]hat six-month cruises under sail [...] helping to integrate into society [...]s who had previously been ex[...]ly aggressive and totally without [...]ation.

[...]fessor Schenck, who is attached to [...]avensburg state clinic in Bavaria, [...] the cruises were no cure-all. But [...]each voyage:

[...]havioural problems had largely [...]peared

[...]atients were able for the first time [...]pe both mentally and physically [...]a normal working day.

[...]most all patients were able to find [...]nticeships.

[...] quotes the experience of a 17.5 [...] ketch, the *Anna Catharina*, which [...]s Mediterranean cruises with [...]gsters between 14 and 18 who [...]ld otherwise be patients in psychia[...]wards.

[...]n each voyage the yacht is manned [...] five therapists and six boys. There is [...]direct therapy. But the dependence [...] wind and tide and the realisation [...] they are all together in a daily fight [...] survival does restore some faith, [...] Professor Schenck.

[...]ring the six months there is no [...]ibility of avoiding day-to-day frus[...]ons. There are watches round the [...], cooking, laundry, scrubbing, [...]ing, repairing in addition to the [...]gating and sailing.

[...] the boys were in hospital, said Pro[...]r Schenck, they would have no de[...]ns to make. On board they are part [...]e decision-making process.

[...]ey have to take care of the customs [...] harbour formalities, get drinking [...] on board and prepare the boat for [...] sea, they have to take part in [...]gency drills.

[...]ing a teacher-therapist aboard the [...]a *Catharina* is quite an adventure. [...]lls for an experienced seaman who [...] handle the boat on the high seas, [...] must be skilled in a trade and ex[...]nced in the handling of young peo[...]

[...]rofessor Schenck: "The therapists [...]board have a tough job. There is no way of escaping their difficult patients. This leads to close personal ties with the youngsters — ties that could never be forged in a hospital."

In part the crew does various environmental and social jobs including helping with harvests and cleaning beaches.

The boat is in permanent radio contact with the Ravensburg clinic.

During the cruise, efforts are made to find apprenticeships.

The experiment has been so successful that other ships are likely to be added.

Professor Schenck: "The boys can now cope, both physically and mentally, with a normal working day. What they had to weather on board was a lot more taxing than the frustration in day-to-day life.

"These youngsters have acquired the self-confidence they need to tackle the future."

Bureaucrats don't like the project. That's because a vessel somewhere out on the Mediterranean is out of reach of the supervisory authorities.

But the yacht is always full because many youth authorities at local level do believe in it. They often act on their own initiative and send youngsters to join the yacht, accepting full responsibility.

Schenck: "On the one hand, the youth authorities are grateful for such improvised alternatives to keeping these youngsters in hospitals or other institutions and are quite prepared to support the project. On the other hand, this kind of experiment clashes with bureaucracy."

Therapy under full canvas . . . the 'Anna Catharina'.

Most of the youngsters were hospitalised because they might be a danger to themselves and others and because normal juvenile institutions cannot give them the psychiatric care they need.

Schenck: "Most of them come from broken homes. They're apathetic, don't know what to do with themselves and are often aggressive."

They are a nightmare for the hospital staff.

"Actually, hospitals like ours are not the right place for them. They don't consider themselves patients but people persecuted by society. They want to withdraw from this society and they don't really want to undergo therapy.

"The psychiatric environment is repulsive to them; yet willingness to undergo treatment is the main prerequisite for its success."

Some hospital staff resent the "luxury psychiatry" that gives youngsters what they themselves could never afford: six months at sea.

But on board is a lot cheaper than keeping them in hospital. Keep aboard the *Anna Catharina* is DM165 a day — almost DM100 less than in hospital.

Sailing as a therapy is not new. For some years another yacht, *Outlaw*, has been making cruises in the North Sea, manned by juvenile delinquents.

Lake Constance has for some years had a similar project for blind, deaf-mute, paralysed and mentally retarded youngsters, backed by local yacht clubs.

This form of therapy, which enables individual disabled youths to find their role in a community where each depends on the other, is sponsored by the *Handicap Segler Gilde*. One of its members is Raimund Deibele, an educationalist and social worker who owns the *Anna Catharina*.

Jürgen Adamek
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 13 August 1983)

Video boom

Continued from page 14

[...]ey from its shareholding in Bavaria-[...]gesellschaft, a company that owns [...]bsidiary, Euro-Video, that is a mar[...]leader.

[...]o-one can say for sure whether self-[...]aint is feasible given such commer[...] links. But Herr Stefen says the hor[...]craze is just a wave that will pass [...] time like any other.

[...]n the long run even zombies are sure [...]ore audiences sooner or later.

Sabine Etzold
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 20 August 1983)

Special ward and special staff for young cancer victims

The children's clinic at Bonn university hospital is one of the most advanced in Germany. One ward has been set aside exclusively for cancer victims.

Dr Udo Bode, who is in charge of the ward, says: "The treatment of children with cancer has to be extremely intensive. In fact, it should be the same as a patient receives in an intensive care unit; this is where many German hospitals still fall short."

The nursing and medical staff in Bonn have been trained to an unmatched degree of excellence.

Since children with cancer need not only intensive medical but psychological care as well, the doctors and nurses meet every evening to discuss innovations and improvements and talk about the children's psychological problems.

These meetings have resulted in a psychotherapeutic self-help group for the staff. The idea is to use psychoanalysis to enable the doctors and nurses to cope with the death of children.

"Though we should be used to death around us, it is still a burden for us. Even though today every other child suffering from leukaemia survives, every one that dies is a blow. This not the type of nine-to-five job where you can simply down your tools and go home," says Dr Bode.

He imported the new approach from the USA where he worked at the National Cancer Institute, specialising in paediatric oncology, i.e. tumours in children.

"A few German university and municipal hospitals now have paediatric oncologists on their staffs, but they are very few and far between," Dr Bode says.

Specialisation was necessary because malignant tumours in children had become increasingly curable during the past 20 years.

"The rising rate of recovery has changed the function of doctors treating children with cancer. Before, they had to ease dying for them; now, they are actually curing them", he says.

About half the children in the ward have leukaemia. The other half have cancer of the kidneys, bones, eyes and brain. More than half can be saved, though for how long is still uncertain because the surveys span only ten years. Time will tell whether they can survive to old age.

The parents of children suffering from cancer have formed an association in Bonn for mutual help to deal with everything from financial problems to baby-sitting.

The German Cancer Fund has not subsidised the Bonn hospital initiative because it does not want to set a precedent. Caring for the sick is a responsibility of local government.

The Cancer Fund is now promoting the transplantation of bone marrow in Munich.

There was some resignation in Dr Bode's voice when he stressed that cost-intensive work is. Difficult when there isn't much public money available.

Although the Cancer Fund's argument is essentially sound, it is hard to understand why it cannot support the Bonn project, especially in view of the deep personal commitment of the staff.

Evi Keil
(Die Welt, 8 August 1983)

Neanderthal

Continued from page 13

nich's Hellabrunn Zoo will provide some bison in exchange for musk oxen.

This will ensure that the valley remains attractive to trippers.

Incidentally, few people know that the Neanderthal is not named after the famous man found in the valley but after the religious poet Joachim Neander (1650-1680). The Neander Valley might well have inspired his most famous hymn: *Lobe den Herren, den mächtigen König der Ehren.*

Sabine Etzold
(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 18 August 1983)

■ HOME AFFAIRS

Shipbuilding crucial factor in Bremen election

...men CDU leader Bernd Neu-...n ... only a few votes in it.

(Photo: Sven Simon)

...oth Hesse and Bremen go to the polls this month. Both are held by SPD.

...n the city-state of Bremen, Hans ...chnick is likely to be returned as ...or. But he will probably lose his ab-...te majority. His CDU opponent is ...d Neumann.

...peculation on what sort of coalition ... emerge has been rife for almost a .... Few think that the CDU and the ...P would be able to rally a workable ...ority.

...he most likely possibility seems to ... coalition between the biggest par-... the SPD and the CDU, despite re-...ations in the SPD rank and file.

...remen now has three parties and ... groupings: SPD, CDU and FDP, ...o have party status, plus three depu-...s of the Bremen Greens (BGL) and ... of the Green and Liberal Group.

...he latter consists of the BGL break-...ay Peter Willers and the FDP break-...ay Uwe Schröder.

...Willers has joined the national Green ...ty (which is represented in the Bun-...stag) and has been put at the top of ...ticket for the Bremen election.

...Schröder, who was supposed to have ...presented liberal elements of the na-...nal Greens, fell prey to intrigues by ...mer Communist Party of Germany ...PD) and Communist Federation of ...many (KBW) cadre men among the ...eens.

...o make matters even more confus-..., there is the *Betrieblich-Alternative* ...*ste* (BAL) that likes to display a green ...ot here and there although it is no ...ret in Bremen that this group is ...cked by Germany's orthodox Com-...nists, the DKP (who are not the ...me as the KPD).

...The campaign and the ultimate deci-...n by the voters is inextricably tied to ... shipbuilding industry's votes.

...Bremen's economically weak struc-...re has been dealt an added blow by ...e Klöcknerhütte, which is hard hit by ...steel crisis, the shipping slump and ... EEC fishing war. It is threatened by ...astrophic mass layoffs.

...Merger talks between the endangered ...ipyards AG Weser, Vulkan and ...pag Lloyd have bogged down.

...The SPD Senate (cabinet) under ...ayor Koschnick has to act rather than ...t provide guidelines.

...As a shareholder of Vulkan, the city-...te is also a shipyard owner. In fact, ... a result of moves by Vulkan co-...ner Thyssen-Bornemisza, who sold ...e shares under the counter, Bremen ...w finds itself holding the controlling ...terest in Vulkan.

...The Senate therefore now finds itself with dual responsibility.

The Opposition CDU and FDP in their turn are more or less obliged to toe the lines of their party friends in the Bonn government.

And then Bonn Economic Affairs Minister Count Lambsdorff made Bremen's hackles rise when he said that the shipyard troubles were not all that bad and that there was certainly no crisis.

The people of Bremen don't agree.

In any event, the shipyards are the main topic of conversation — not only because some 11,000 jobs are in direct jeopardy but also because of the disastrous consequences any collapse would have on the shipyards' suppliers and other related industries.

In addition, it is only natural that all parties should be wooing yard workers for their votes.

Four years ago, the SPD managed to capture the absolute majority by a margin of only a few hundred votes.

Bremen's CDU leader, Bernd Neumann, is now trying to make use of the fact that he has free access to his party's national chairman, Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who is prepared to talk with anybody, be it works councils or the Senate, when the shipyards are at issue.

The gruffness with which Kohl's predecessor, Helmut Schmidt, dealt with his fellow SPD members at a state convention is still fresh in everybody's memory.

But Chancellor Kohl stubbornly demands concrete plans if he is to do anything on the grounds that he does not want to pour the taxpayer's money into a bottomless pit.

Campaigning Social Democrats in their turn point to the fact that it was their Chancellor who saved the Vulkan yard from capsizing when it miscalculated regarding a navy order for frigates.

With Lambsdorff in his pack of cards, state FDP leader Horst-Jürgen Lahmann clearly holds the worst hand.

But he is a clever go-between, which is made the easier by the fact that the Bremen administrators in such sectors as labour and economic affairs cut a poor figure in terms of expertise and determination with trade unionists, works councils, management boards, the general public and even their own party. Karl Willms, who is responsible for both departments, has to serve as the whipping boy, which he does patiently. He can do this because he is from Bremerhaven, and the Bremerhaven SPD has always been a vote getter that has offset the losses of the Bremen SPD. This has put it in a strong position.

Therefore, no matter what they think about Willms and no matter how much they urge Koschnick to rid himself of his economic and labour affairs senator — at least in his present post — there is nothing Koschnick can do if the Bremerhaven SPD flexes its muscles.

In any event, nobody can tell whether

Continued on page 4



Bremen mayor Hans Koschnick ... absolute majority unlikely.

(Photo: Marianne von der Lancken)

Hesse CDU candidate accuses SPD of 'being worn out'

The Hesse election will be crucial for CDU and SPD. The CDU's new top candidate, Frankfurt's Mayor Walter Wallmann, wants to finish in Hesse what Chancellor Helmut Kohl has ushered in Bonn: the vaunted about-turn.

He says that decades in government have worn out the SPD.

Wallmann's idea is to form a government with the FDP, which did not make it into the assembly in the last election.

The FDP, on the other hand, is only prepared to enter into a coalition if the CDU fails to win the absolute majority.

The CDU's main argument in its bit to replace the SPD government is the "Red-Green see-sawing," i. e. the selective cooperation between the Social Democrats and the Greens which has caused nothing but damage since the 1982 Hesse election.

To demonstrate the ability of its top candidate, the CDU points to the success Wallmann has had as Frankfurt's mayor in boosting the economy and so creating new jobs or preventing layoffs.

As Wallmann himself puts it: "I'll only mention a few catchwords such as housing, bypass roads, energy supply and environmental protection."

If he loses, Wallmann does not want to become the Opposition leader.

Hesse SPD leader Holger Börner, the caretaker Prime Minister, and his team deliberately worked towards an autumn election when they found that neither of the two major parties in the assembly could govern without a partner.

Börner works on the assumption that the conservatives' landslide victory in the March national election will be followed by disenchantment over the fact that the upturn promised by Kohl has failed to materialise.

The SPD, whose platform is secure jobs, workers' rights and stepped up environmental protection, hopes to become the strongest political force in Hesse once more.

Only if that happens can his party revive the golden age under the legendary Prime Minister Georg August Zinn.

Börner has repeatedly made it clear that he would like it best if only his party and the CDU were returned to the assembly.

Asked what his attitude towards the Greens would be if the assembly found itself in a stalemate again, he said he would worry about that when the time came, if it came.

The Greens, who opposed the dissolution of the assembly, hope to be as successful as in 1982.

But this time they want to make a bid for direct political power, according to their state spokesman Werner Wenz: "The other parties are in no position to solve the problems by themselves."

One of the Greens' key slogans in the 1982 campaign was "No additional runway for Frankfurt airport."

Their opposition to the enlargement of the airport, the further development of the Biblis nuclear power station and the installation of a processing plant for nuclear waste in Hesse gave them eight per cent of the popular vote and nine seats in the assembly last year.

State FDP leader and top candidate Wolfgang Gerhardt makes no bones about the fact that this will be a make-or-break election for his party.

The Hesse FDP, which has been out of the assembly for a year, is trying to make the voters understand that this party is a must because the CDU cannot form a government without a coalition partner. Moreover, the FDP stresses, the major parties need a liberal watchdog.

Gerhardt says he is not afraid of the breakaway Liberal Democrats whose votes would come from the SPD.

Albert Bechthold, Fred Mühlhausen, Burkhard Rexin

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 17 August 1983)

Opponents: Hesse Premier Holger Börner, SPD (left) and Walter Wallmann, his CDU challenger.

(Photo: dpa)

■ PEOPLE

A Soviet specialist goes back to Bonn

The appointment of Andreas Meyer-Landrut to succeed the retiring Bernd von Staden as state secretary at the Bonn Foreign Office is as much a gain for Bonn as it is a loss for German-Soviet relations.

It can safely be said that Meyer-Landrut, Germany's eighth ambassador to the Soviet Union, has been its best.

He speaks Russian fluently and could therefore conduct all his negotiations without an interpreter — unlike most other Western ambassadors who neither speak the language nor wish to learn it.

It is hard to imagine anyone who does not speak French or English being sent to Paris or Washington.

But Meyer-Landrut's parents come from Estonia's capital, Tallinn, where Russian is widely spoken. He has also studied Slavic literature, which gave him another advantage.

His full and determined use of his facility with the language enabled him to move with great ease in Moscow's diplomatic circles.

Any other ambassador who visited the Moscow miracle healer Djunna Davitashvili as often as he did would have caused raised eyebrows.

What matters is that the ease with which he moved in the Soviet Union an other than official occasions was appreciated by his hosts.

Though not terrible outgoing and not given to enjoying large parties, Meyer-Landrut made friends with many Moscow officials and private individuals, which helped him greatly in his work. When travelling in the provinces, he made a point of calling on the local party bosses, some of whom are members of the Politburo. Nothing like this is known among the other Western ambassadors.



Andreas Meyer-Landrut (left) as Bonn envoy in Moscow, with senior Soviet official Vassily Kusnezov. (Photo: AP)

Some people took offence at his refusing to play the role of "father of the German colony" in Moscow, preferring to concentrate on his diplomatic work. But this benefited Bonn-Moscow relations.

His ambassadorship (he assumed the post in October 1980) fell in an unfavourable phase when East-West relations were deteriorating.

Meyer-Landrut first saw service in Moscow as a young attaché in 1957. From 1966 to 1969, he was press attaché in Moscow, later becoming head of the Soviet desk at the Bonn Foreign Office. From there, he went up a rung to take over the whole East Bloc department.

He thus observed and played a role in the détente process of those years.

But one of the most difficult tasks he had to master was the dual function of emphatically putting across the West's collective stand on Afghanistan, Poland and other conflict areas while at the same time protecting German-Soviet ties from the consequences of extreme and hasty responses.

He rarely talks about this aspect of his work and when he does it is with a tortured expression and in a strangely roundabout way.

Though he never really says it in so many words, he does show dismay at the dilletantism in the way the West has handled the Soviet Union.

Quite a few diplomats soon forget everything they learned in Moscow once they return to Bonn.

This is unlikely to happen with State Secretary Andreas Meyer-Landrut. And since there is little likelihood that East-West relations will improve in the near future the appointment of a man thoroughly familiar with Moscow was a sound move.

Uwe Engelbrecht

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 26 August 1983)

Von Staden, diplomat and policy maker, retires

Bernd von Staden (right), as Bonn Ambassador in Washington with Henry Kissinger. (Photo: dpa)

Bernd von Staden, State Secretary at the Bonn Foreign Office and a top policy maker has decided to retire only eight months before his official retirement age.

The move has not come as a surprise to Bonn insiders.

The many offices he has held during his career have had their effect on his health.

In June 1981, Foreign Minister Genscher appointed von Staden as "chief secretary" of the huge Foreign Office after a surprisingly short stint as foreign affairs advisor to Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. The appointment was the last and the most important milestone in his career.

He weathered the vaunted about-turn and prevented the equally vaunted "continuity" from becoming empty talk.

Von Staden had no reason to worry about having to change his political views.

Stable and, is possible, improved relations with America have always been one of the main objectives of German foreign policy and von Staden's main task. Before his short interlude at the Chancellery, he spent six years as Germany's ambassador to Washington. He described this time as his most important diplomatic experience.

He stayed at the Embassy until 1979 and thus covered Henry Kissinger's entire period as US secretary of state, ably representing German interests.

Von Staden's career is exemplary for a modern diplomat who is not only an administrator but a policy maker as well.

After a spell at the German Embassy in Brussels, the then president of the European Council, Walter Hallstein, made him the cabinet chief of the then rapidly growing Council.

What von Staden experienced there was five years of political dynamism that was far removed from the much deplored bureaucratic petrification of today's EEC institutions.

Von Staden later went to the Foreign Office under Walter Scheel, when he played a major part in formulating and realising the treaties with the East Bloc.

Both as ambassador and as state secretary he convinced through his calm, well-informed and businesslike manner.

Two years ago he really looked forward to his work as state secretary. His request for premature retirement now therefore seems to indicate that not all the hopes he pinned on this post have materialised.

In any event, von Staden was never short of work. He criss-crossed the world on the foreign minister's behalf though never quite gaining the influence of his predecessor, van Well. Van Well was Genscher's closest adviser, policy formulator and propagandist.

When Hildegard Hamm-Brücher fell prey to the "about-turn", von Staden inherited her post as coordinator of German-American relations — on top of all his other burdens.

His last official job will be to accompany President Karl Carstens to America where he will attend celebrations marking this event.

Bernd von Staden is to be succeeded by Germany's ambassador to Moscow, Andreas Meyer-Landrut.

The fact that a North America man is to be replaced by a Moscow specialist shows the importance the Kohl-Genscher government attributes to the further development of relations with the East Bloc. It does not signify a change in political priorities but simply the difficulty of the job.

Bernd von Staden's retirement will strip Bonn's foreign affairs scene of one of its hallmarks of quality.

Thomas Meyer

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 26 August 1983)

Bremen elec[tion]

Continued from page

a change in this post would lea[d] ... lution.

But even disregarding inter[nal] squabbles and bureaucratic [...] somebody will have to pay for [the] yard disaster.

Before going to the polls, [...] the works councils and the [...] kers union want to know what [...] ticians' intention is.

Everybody realises that there [...] layoffs. The question is, how [...] where.

Against this background [...] buck-passing between the Bonn [...] ment and the Bremen Senate, [...] came up with a remarkable fea[t] [...] works council chairman Fritz [...] häuser has been given fourth p[lace] [on] the BGL ticket. This is a safe [...] his grouping manages to win [...] cent of the poll. This is needed [...] into the assembly.

The magic five per cent is [...] ponderables in this election: [...] FDP, who have always polled [...] Bremen, manage to return to the [...] bly? And what about the BGL [...] national Greens?

Will both Green groupings [...] one get in? And if only one [...] which? Will there be one Green [...] plus the FDP or will the assembly [...] sist of the national Greens, the [...] FDP, CDU and SPD?

Everything is possible, inclu[ding] total splintering of the Green [...] potential with 4.9 per cent of the [...] going to two Green groupings [...] somewhat less than one per cent [...] BAL, which would normally get [...] nothing. And what if the FDP [...] winds up with 4.9 per cent? It's [...] the cards.

FDP leader Lahmann has stated [...] he wants an SPD-FDP coalition [...] Social Democrats lose their ab[solute] majority and if they vow to be the [...]

The Liberal Democrats (LD), [...] broke away from the FDP, want [...] the FDP out of the legislature (su[...] Greens). They are nibbling at the [...] voter potential; but nobody ca[n] [...] how big the bite will be.

The CDU is trying to appear [...] manlike and expects a coalition [...] from the SPD should the FDP on[ly] [...] manage to take the five per cent [...] and should one or two Green gro[upings] be represented in the assembly: [...] tion with the sights levelled on Bonn [...]

In any event, Bremen CDU le[ader] Neumann saw to it that his prede[cessor] in the party, the economic affairs [...] Uwe Hollweg, got a place on the C[DU] ticket. Hollweg is generally regard[ed as] suitable for a cabinet post.

The BGL is also prepared to [...] into a coalition and even form an [...] FDP-BGL government. Only the [...] nal Greens are not prepared to joi[n] coalitions.

But since they do not want a s[...] mate as existed in Hamburg last [...] and as still exists in Hesse, they are [...] pared to make a deal with the SPD [...] specific issues.

And since, unlike other State [...] blies, Bremen cannot dissolve itself [...] must stay in office for the full four[-year] term, such a solution seems unr[...] — at least with the present top S[PD] men in control.

But all this is speculation. Only [...] very few votes could swing matters [...] number of ways. *Niels N. von Hase[...]*

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntag[sblatt], 21 August 19[83])

LABOUR

Stronger pressures cause health danger at work

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

[W]ork can make you mentally ill: the pressure of competition for growing dependence on automa[tion] and robots, increasing pressure to [...] an above-average performance [...]ess opportunity for individual acti[...]

[Th]ese can all be problems at work, [...]hey were discussed at length by ex[...] of various kinds at the Protestant [Chur]ch Academy in Tutzing, Bavaria. [U]niversity lecturers, trade unionists, [...]s councillors, psychologists, socio[logi]sts and social workers all had plenty [...]y in general analysis.

[Th]ey mentioned risks and worrisome [...]ors but failed to answer the basic [que]stion, which was whether and how [men]tal illness could be prevented at [wor]k.

[W]ork basically keeps you healthy, ac[cor]ding to Dr Michael Freese, from [...]in. It was productive, kept you ac[tive], gave you a meaning in life and [cou]ld boost self-esteem, he said.

[W]ork was the prerequisite if spare [tim]e was to be meaningfully recognised [for] what it was.

[W]hy, then, do people so often have [hea]daches, bad nerves, stomach trou[ble], sleep problems and heart and joint [com]plaints at work?

[M]embers of the medical profession [say] stress is to blame. The pressure of [...] is continually increasing. Work is [mo]notonous and can be simply too [mu]ch in terms of quantity.

[I]n terms of quality people can suffer [fro]m having too heavy demands made [on t]hem and from not being asked to do [...]gh at work.

[R]obert Fischer, a Bavarian Labour [Min]istry official, said: "The world of [wor]k is no longer dominated by work[...]men, as it used to be, but by engi[neer]s who make increasing use of tech[nol]ogy.

"Many people are no longer able to [find] any meaning in their work."

He has no doubt whatever that men[tal] strain at work is on the increase, al[tho]ugh he does make this distinction: "It is not a matter of whether the job [is] objectively burdensome but one of [ho]w the person affected subjectively [fee]ls it to be."

[B]ut there is more to it than that. All [at] Tutzing were agreed that the psycho[log]ical strain on working people in[cre]ased rapidly when the pace of work [wa]s determined only by the production [tech]nology.

The strain was greater when there [wa]s no longer any opportunity of hav[ing] a quick chat with workmates, when [a] man relied on the work of the man [bef]ore him so much that he was no lon[ger] able to influence the course of pro[duc]tion himself.

It was also greater when relations [wit]h workmates and superiors were felt [to] be tension-laden and there was no [lon]ger a boss one could approach di[rec]tly.

Problems thus arose whenever the course and content of work were felt to be entirely determined by others.

Jürgen Büresch, a psychologist employed by BMW in Munich, said: "Increasing automation is accompanied by a striking switch from physical to mental strain."

But the effect on the individual varies and depends to a considerable extent on factors connected with private life.

"People don't arrive at work as complete blanks," as one delegate put it. "They come from personal relationships and contexts."

The pressure of unemployment (or the threat of it) weighs heavily on many. They are worried stiff by constant anxiety over job security.

Four out of 10 were dissatisfied with their present jobs, said Professor Spiegel of Frankfurt University, but nearly everyone was anxious at all costs to hang on to his job.

In other words, competition is growing fiercer. People are increasingly prepared to take on jobs that call for lower qualifications.

The atmosphere at work is deteriorating. Isolation at work is on the increase.

Many people even run health risks and don't report sick even when they are seriously ill. Prevention, such as time off at a health resort, is totally neglected.

Older people, the disabled, women and foreigners are particularly hard-hit by the mental repercussions of tougher working conditions.

Unemployment is three times as high among women in comparison with men, a Tutzing working party noted.

Women workers not only bear the dual burden of working and running a home and family. What with the high level of unemployment among men they feel they must justify going out to work at all.

So women are more disposed than men to conform in response to this mental strain. They are also more liable to suffer from bouts of depression and to resort to drugs and drink.

Women who are unskilled workers are considered the category who are most likely to suffer from mental strain at work.

Foreigners are another problem group. As a rule they combine all the disadvantages. Many are increasingly suffering from the feeling that they are unwelcome.

They feel threatened by legal insecurity in respect of work permits and whether they can bring their families to Germany.

After 10 or 12 years of work in Germany many of them suffer from exhaustive depression and symptoms of psychosomatic illness.

How to cope with the problem? All at Tutzing agreed that one aim must be to extend the leeway for activity by the individual at work.

Reducing stress factors alone was not enough. Heribert Fieber, a Siemens works councillor, said: "Staff must work more independently, either in groups or on their own."

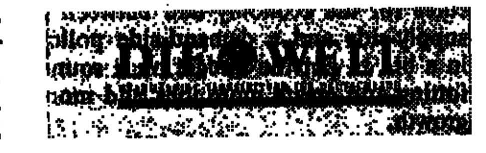
Practical proposals put forward included reducing multiple strains, improving break arrangements, more flexitime and no more anonymous spot checks on output.

The gathering may have succeeded in outlining the problems but it was unable to make effective suggestions on how to counteract stress and mental illness at work.

Ursula Hecker

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 23 August 1983)

Relentless march of the computer monitor screen



Working at visual display units, or computer monitor screens, continues to be a controversial subject. Many people are sceptical and don't relish the prospect of joining the club.

But they seem unlikely to be able to avoid the inevitable for much longer. According to one estimate the informatics market will increase by between 7.5 and 10 per cent a year by 1990.

In a growth market five per cent will be accounted for by office technology.

Market research by Emnid, of Bielefeld, for IBM Deutschland could arguably relieve people's anxieties.

According to the report's findings initial dislike of the VDU gradually gives way to incipient feelings of sympathy. In other words, people get to like working at a monitor screen.

Of 3,071 non-users 75 per cent were opposed to the box, whereas 89 per cent of 1,504 users questioned were all in favour of the new technology.

Yet despite this positive outlook on the part of users, by no means everyone was entirely satisfied with VDU working conditions.

They favoured improvements, but not to the screen itself. Only 18 per cent had complaints about the screen, such as poor adjustability for use, typeface, functions, programmes, contrast and glare.

Thirty-four per cent were critical of the room where they worked: its size, temperature, the light and noise, for example.

The survey undertook a critical examination of the connection with VDU work and physical well-being.

Twenty-four per cent of users complained of physical effects such as eye trouble, cramp and headaches that they attributed to "screen" work.

But a survey of 1,585 people who work at assorted jobs that have nothing to do with computers shows that about one working person in four constantly feels ill in one way or another because of work.

The Bielefeld market research institute feels nonetheless there is a link between feeling physically unwell and the kind of work people do.

The length of time per day spent at the screen is also felt to be a contributory factor.

It reaches the conclusion that work and working conditions must be well thought out, that work must be varied and VDU work limited to two to three hours a day with flexible break arrangements.

These provisions are felt to be best likely to satisfy future VDU users.

Karen Söhler

(Die Welt, 23 August 1983)

Warning over continuing bid for growth

The industrialised countries must come to terms with zero growth, says Heinz Keller, president of the Fraunhofer Society, the Munich-based scientific research association.

"Limits to growth have been reached, economic cycles are growing shorter and growth rates smaller," he says.

The Fraunhofer Society has a staff of 3,000 at 30 research institutes all over the Federal Republic of Germany. It is the largest research organisation of its kind in the country.

Its research work is carried out in roughly equal proportions for the government, under contract to industrial customers and for purposes of its own.

Dr Keller, who holds a PhD in chemistry, retires in September after nine years at the helm of the organisation.

Economic growth such as occurred in the 1950s and 1960s was exceptional, he feels, and comparable only with the boom that followed the Franco-Prussian War of 1870/71.

Many domestic markets were now saturated, consumer goods lasted longer and many export markets were running dry because countries were growing increasingly indebted.

An "economic miracle of the second kind" was conceivable, however, inasmuch as progress in productivity was continuing.

The rationalisation rate, which is currently running at between two and a half and three per cent, was likely if anything to increase.

Dr Keller is strongly in favour of shorter working hours. If the trend continues unemployment will increase until the end of the decade.

Remedies include early retirement, an extra year at school and, on a voluntary basis, part-time jobs or a four-day working week.

The 35-hour week, he says, is by no means as nonsensical as it is often made out to be, although it cannot be introduced with no loss of pay.

Dr Keller is not just a scientist; he used to be on the board of directors of Metallgesellschaft, the Frankfurt non-ferrous metals company, which last year had a turnover of DM10.6bn.

The productive sector of the economy was expected to decline from 45 to 30 per cent of economic output by the turn of the century.

The service sector was unlikely to be able to provide jobs for industrial redundancies because it too was in the throes of rationalisation.

A century ago people worked 60 hours a week. Economic growth has never been enough to offset rationalisation, with the result that working hours have steadily been reduced.

"Why," Dr Keller asks, "should there be any change today in such a clear historical trend?"

The state could accomplish much more by way of financing new developments if it were not to subsidise to the hilt sectors such as steel, the railways and agriculture.

Government subsidies ought to be ploughed solely into investment for the future, as in Japan.

Industry in the Federal Republic of Germany is in his view by no means poorly equipped to meet the future.

The caning it took from the Japanese and Americans in the 1970s has mobi-

Continued on page 6



■ FINANCE

Lots of problems, but Stoltenberg is dead on target with his sums

Unemployment figures continue to rise and a marked economic remains elusive. But there is no controversy over budget deficits in Bonn this year. This is most unusual.

Even the Social Democrats, who only in May predicted that Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg would have to draft a supplementary budget, had to admit that this year's revenues and spending will be on target because they had been calculated more realistically than before.

Unlike his predecessors, Stoltenberg is firmly in control of his till. But this is not due solely to his ability. He has been greatly helped by the circumstances under which the change of government took place last autumn.

Despite constant criticism because of its deficits, the SPD-FDP coalition government for years drafting the budget for too optimistically with disastrous results.

The new government was in a position to calculate realistically and indeed pessimistically because the bigger the mess it took over the more it could blame the old government.

So the new government based its budget on considerably less economic growth and, therefore, lower revenue than the old one. It figured on more spending and decided to shoulder a debt of DM40bn, something the Schmidt-Genscher government would not have had the courage to do, although it would have been forced to in the end.

On top of the considerable spending cutbacks that had already been introduced, the new government did not shrink from such unpopular measures as reducing child allowances and Bafög (student and training grants).

In addition, the cabinet raised VAT and introduced the controversial compulsory loan to the government to be paid by relatively high earners.

It blamed this emergency programme on the Social Democrats, and pro-labour CDU politicians like Labour Minister Norbert Blüm used this as welcome campaign ammunition for the general election in March, when the centre-right government had already been in power for several months.

The measures were successful to the point where Stoltenberg had no holes to plug in the budget because the data on which it was based were correct.

Stoltenberg's interim balance sheet would probably have been less favourable had the government done more in the form of subsidies to help the ailing steel and shipbuilding industries.

But it is perfectly in keeping with a solid budgetary policy to exercise as much restraint as possible when it comes to subsidies.

The fact that Stoltenberg is being attacked not only by the opposition but increasingly also by conservative elements such as business lobbyists is an inheritance from the Christian Democrats' opposition days.

Stoltenberg, then the prime minister of Schleswig-Holstein, had promised a much more radical change of fiscal course than he is now prepared to implement.

Among these changes were drastic cutbacks in subsidies and social benefits, a rapid reduction of annual borrowing and the reversal of hidden tax increases.

The public now demands that he deliver on his promises.

Once in the Finance Ministry, however, Stoltenberg embarked on a middle-of-the-road course.

He neither aims at the speediest though socially and economically the most risky way of consolidating the budget nor does he pin his hopes on an economic upturn.

On that point he does not differ as much from his SPD predecessors Hans Matthöfer and Manfred Lahnstein as SPD criticism would make us believe.

Although there is a difference in the assessment of induvidual austerity and tax relief measures, Stoltenberg's course since last October must be taken as a bit of fiscal continuity rather than a change to the point of Thatcherism and Reaganomics.

Only a year ago, this seemed a real danger in the light of opposition demands.

The Kohl-Genscher government is determined to continue on the middle-of-the-road course between radical economising and additional booster measures for the economy and between a supply-side and a demand-side policy in a bid to put the budget on a sound fotting and create more jobs and more growth.

Stoltenberg should not allow himself to be swayed by those conservatives who accuse him of being half-hearted.

Werner Gössling

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 20 August 1983)



Growth warning

Continued from page 5

lised forces that have made the country competitive again in high technology.

Prefabricated elements in the construction industry and new developments in communications technology were cases in point.

Germany was no longer trailing Japan in industrial robots either.

In research and promotion policy Dr Keller is in favour of concentration while warning against too drastic cuts in direct subsidies.

The Confederation of Federal Republic Industry has suggested tax incentives to promote research and development.

Dr Keller is strictly opposed to this idea. It would, he feels, be totally uncontrollable.

dpa/VWD

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 13 August 1983)

Bleak outl[...] for Germa[...] shipyards

Handelsbla[...]
WIRTSCHAFTS- UND FINANZZ[...]

The position of German s[...] deteriorating rapidly. A[...] being done about it is to hold [...] ces and put forward demands [...] clarations of intent.

Regardless whether the fo[...] states meet to confer on the [...] plight or whether each of them [...] ely goes to Bonn to ask for help [...] ther the Metalworkers Union [...] tall) discusses what it conside[...] the salient point is that the co[...] tes, the metalworkers and t[...] yards demand export subsid[...] Bonn is disunited on the subsid[...] as such, let alone the amount.

In any event, it is doubtful [...] export subsidies can really s[...] building. According to latest f[...] by the London-based Drewry S[...] Consultants Ltd., the problem [...] shipbuilding industry world-w[...] worsen in the next few years.

A real change, the London fi[...] is unlikely to come before the [...] half of the decade. And the b[...] northern European yards is likel[...] cline still further.

World trade is declining and [...] a huge world shipping surplus [...] new vessels have to be mothb[...] soon as they are launched.

Hamburg shipbuilder J. J. Si[...] every new ship is a ship too man[...]

Export subsidies are also d[...] because they create a precedent [...] branches of industry suffering fr[...] capacities are bound to say tha[...] sauce for the goose is sauce for t[...] der.

Here in Germany it would be [...] rous to gloss over the fact that [...] nal shipbuilding capacities must [...] down.

Bremen is now demonstrating [...] not to do this. With a state e[...] coming up on 25 September, po[...] of all hues and colours are trying [...] shipyard workers into a false se[...] security.

No Bremen politician worth hi[...] has any doubt that there will hav[...] layoffs and that one of the two [...] yards will have to throw in the tow[...]

Expert blueprints for meaningf[...] lutions are available, but Bremen i[...] likely to act before the election [...] when it does act the rescue me[...] will be even costlier.

IG Metall has also been blinkered [...] call on shipyard shareholders, [...] and the states to ensure the surviv[...] the existing yards is as unrealistic [...] idea that a DM20bn programme [...] ensure growth.

What is worth pondering is the [...] Metall suggestion that a shipbu[...] panel be appointed. (After all, there [...] also been such a thing as a steel[...] panel.)

The panel's function would be [...] cide on the future size of our ship[...] ing industry, draft priorities for the [...] maining yards and suggest the ap[...] priate action to be taken by Bonn, [...] states and the Metalworkers Union.

Lutz Beh[...]

(Handelsblatt, 19 Aug[...])

TRADE

Punch and counter punch across the Atlantic

Frankfurter Allgemeine

[...]uropeans have a feeling of power[...]ssness in the face of the strong [...] the dollar and high American [...] rates.

[...] realisation that Washington is in[...]nt to the negative effects of these [...]rope has raised doubts about how [...]ted President Reagan is.

[...]r Washington policies also [...] Europeans.

[...]ectionist measures against im[...] of European special steel only a [...]eeks after the solemn declaration [...] contrary at the Williamsburg [...]it came as a blow.

[...] fact that Washington has seen fit [...]roduce quotas and increase tariffs [...]ch a relatively unimportant im[...] commodity is frightening to its fo[...] trading partners.

[...]erica's agricultural pinpricks di[...] at Europe have also caused un[...]

[...]hough there is a jarring note to [...] trade disputes, there is nothing [...]bout them.

[...]he 1960s, America's currency and [...]etary policy drove the Europeans [...]operation, forcing them to help fi[...] the Vietnam War by buying US [...]ry notes and thus sparing the [...]cans a tax increase.

[...]he 1970s, it was the weak dollar [...]naway inflation rates in America [...]othered Europeans.

[...] it is the high Federal debt that [...] the dollar and interest rates soar.

[...] dispute over European steel [...]ents to America also existed 20 [...]ago.

[...]s also more than 20 years ago [...]he chicken war between America [...]urope and since then President [...]hower found it necessary to write [...]onal letter on the matter to Chan[...] Adenauer.

[...] European Community's farm [...], with its protectionist traits, has [...] been a thorn in the American [...] Yet the Americans have always [...]oked the fact that the Community [...] greatest buyer of farm products [...]at a considerable portion of Eu[...] high trade deficit with America is [...] this.

[...] fact that today's Europe takes [...]nflict with America more serious[...] to do with changed economic [...]ions.

[...]hington's fiscal and trade policy [...]es, which were once no more [...]ritants, lead to entirely different [...]uences today.

[...]ope will hardly recover from its [...]depression of the post-war era if [...]mericans don't reduce interest [...]

[...]s of uncoupling European inter[...]s from those in America are illu[...] especially if this is to be achiev[...]hout erecting barriers to the flow [...]ds and capital.

[...]hington does not seem to realise [...] carries responsibility for the Wes[...] world as a whole.

[...]erican policy makers orientate [...]selves by their national interests, which is impermissible for a leading power that depends on the cooperation of its partners.

Washington's stubborn refusal to accept the fact that its record deficit is the main reason for the high interest rates (and hence for the problems that plague Europe and the excessively indebted developing countries) is a clear indication that America is ignoring its global responsibility.

The same applies to Washington's trade policy. True, for the most part trade is still handled liberally and unfolds without obstruction. But it is also true that the economic crisis and the unemployment that goes with it have increased protectionist trends.

By resorting to protectionist measures time and again, the world's leading power and verbal champion of free trade risks losing its credibility.

The Americans argue that their own protectionist measures are due to growing protectionism and subsidies in the supplier countries.

Though it is an old truism that attack is the best defence, America should beware of a retaliatory policy. This sort of thing tends to backfire. It can also easily cause a chain reaction.

America's subsidies argument does have some validity. It is quite true that Europe's steel industry has for some years been kept alive through subsidies; and it is therefore not surprising that the Americans took action against this unfair competition last year.

Even so, there is the controversial question as to how much of the problem is attributable to the inefficiency of America's steel industry and how much to imports.

There is clear evidence that Congress only gave in to protectionist pressure from industrial lobbyists because the congressmen have their sights levelled on the coming election.

The Americans cut a better figure in the dispute over farm products in which it is their avowed aim to counter Europe's export subsidies.

Though the Americans are far from innocent in subsidy matters, it was the European Community that got its farm export business off the ground through massive subsidies and thus managed to become the world's second largest exporter of these goods.

Formally, the EEC can fall back on the provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), which expressly permit such subsidies. But they are at odds with sound economic sense.

It makes no sense to produce goods for which there is no market at home and which can only be exported by subsidising them heavily.

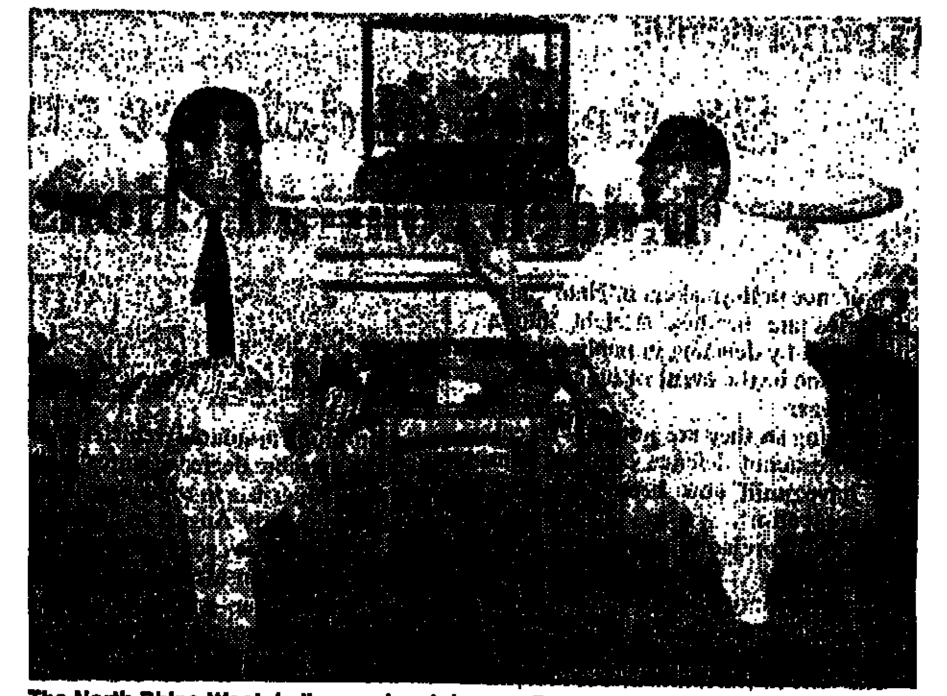
This leaves competitors no choice but to do the same, making the whole thing that much more costly for all concerned.

Nobody in the European Community is prepared to admit that Gatt's approval of export subsidies wa contingent on their eventual removal.

Unless Europeans mend their ways they could be faced with a real trade war with America — a war they have only raised as a spectre so far.

Heinz Stadlmann

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 23 August 1983)



The North Rhine-Westphalia premier, Johannes Rau (left) with the Chinese minister of commerce, Li Dongye. They talked about trade between the two nations. (Photo: dpa)

China gives a warning on financing of imports

China has threatened to cut back its orders for German goods unless Bonn improves its financing terms.

Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Wei Yuming told North Rhine-Westphalia's Prime Miniater Johannes Rau (SPD), who is visiting Peking, that Bonn should use its development aid budget to improve financing for Chinese imports from Germany.

Otherwise German business would "lose many orders." Other countries were eager to supply China.

This demand put a new accent on the third day of Rau's visit to Peking. In previous talks, top Chinese government officials had only expresse the wish for a greater involvement of German companies in China's economic modernisation drive and for more West German exports to China. No strings were attached.

North Rhine-Westphalia's business representatives, who are accompanying Rau, are taking the threat very seriously.

Friedel Neuber, the chief executive of Westdeutsche Landesbank, said that Wei Yuming's words were no empty talk. He said that German exporters will have to come up with new ideas on how to make the financing of German exports more competitive.

Kurt Spiller, chairman of Krupp Industrietechnik, warned against assuming that China was just bluffing. He said that countries like Japan, Italy and France have lately tried to meet China's demand on this point.

He also warned against underestimating the technical capabilities of Germany's competitors. Financing terms could therefore be decisive. He called on Bonn and the business community to ponder this issue.

Rau told journalists that he saw no possibility of direct Bonn credit subsidies for the China business considering present conditions.

But he did not discount the possibility of using develoment aid money. He said that this should be discussed in Bonn — especially in view of the fact that Development Aid Minister Jürgen Warnke (CSU) is due to visit Peking soon.

China's Mechanical Engineering Ministry is said to have asked Rau to send German experts to inspect eight to ten Chinese industrial complexes and make modernisation suggestions. He is also supposed to have said that China was considering buying second-hand German machinery.

The German delegation of 27 includes representatives of Schloemann-Siemag, Krupp, the Westdeutsche Landesbank and the Steinmüller energy company.

In the course of his one-week visit, Rau will also inspect the Wuhan steel mill which was erected with German help.

dpa/vwd

(Bremer Nachrichten, 23 August 1983)

More links with Japan urged

Bonn Research Minister Heinz Riesenhuber (CDU), who is visiting Tokyo, has called for more technical cooperation between Germany and Japan.

In his talks with Japan's minister of trade and industry, Sosuke Uno, he placed particular emphasis on data processing and the development of the fast breeder technology and coal liquefaction processes.

According to a Japanese government spokesman, Riesenhuber also indicated that Germany was interested in a positive outcome of the negotiations now in progress between Germany's Kraftwerk Union AG and Japan's Tokyo Electronic Power on the supply by Germany of the first water pressure reactor.

At the opening of the third German-Japanese-American nuclear energy conference in Nara on 22 August, Riesenhuber called for a flexible US nuclear policy towards the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan.

He said that although both these countries had forgone the possession of nuclear weapons they had to foot 50 per cent of the International Atomic Energy Agency's global cost of supervising the required control and security measures.

He said that while Bonn realised the necessity for a strict observance of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, this should not hamper the peaceful use of nuclear energy in countries that are not interested in nuclear weapons.

dpa

(General-Anzeiger Bonn, 23 August 1983)